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"PHARMACEUTICAL TESTING" is just the thing for the busy pharmacist. Practical, concise, and easy of reference, it gives him the test by which he may ascertain the purity of most of the leading chemical preparations, &c., the quality of which it is his business to know.—Professor W. M. SEARBY, of the College of Pharmacy, San Francisco. (Published by the C. & D., 2s. 6d.; by post, 2s. 9d.)

## Summary.

"J. ISLIP" is again ordering goods. See warning note on p. 211.

KODAK's terms are discussed, *pro* and *con*, by correspondents (p. 212).

SOME more phrases which involve medicine-stamp liability are mentioned on p. 134.

THINGS THAT HAPPEN—SOMETIMES replace our nursery rhymes for a short time (p. 194).

INTERESTING particulars regarding the practice of dentistry in Egypt are given on p. 213.

TWO UNLICENSED RETAILERS have been fined for exposing stamped medicines (p. 204).

The conclusion of evidence and arguments in *Treath v. Samuelson* is reported on p. 200.

A CREOSOTE MASS suitable for manufacturers is described by Mr. J. J. Bryant in a note on p. 193.

WE sum up the discussion on opodeldoc in an historical review of the origin of the preparation (p. 196).

WHAT is calcii phosphas, B.P.? This is a question which Messrs. Cowley and Catford answer on p. 190.

THE supply of vaccine-lymph and the cure of cancer have occupied the attention of Parliament (p. 215).

THE President of the Pharmaceutical Society has expressed his views on Mr. Paterson's education proposal (p. 193).

MR. LORD GIFFORD says the best way to settle the apprenticeship question is to go for unqualified practice (p. 211).

DENTISTS (unregistered) have got into trouble at Clitheroe owing to the death of a patient under chloroform (p. 183).

"YOUKNO" is the name of a skin-preparation used in Australia which has given rise to an interesting legal action there (p. 187).

THE DISCOVERY OF THE FUTURE was the topic at the Royal Institution last week, and Mr. H. G. Wells, the novelist, was the lecturer (p. 193).

MR. W. R. D. WHITE, of Portsmouth, has been fined a second time under the Pharmacy Act because his poison labels do not conform with Section 17 (p. 200).

A BOW STREET summons against a retailer in respect to paregoric had to be withdrawn because the analyst made a misstatement in his certificate (p. 203).

THE DICKENS v. RANDERSON DECISION upset the contention in the London Mansion House Court that mercurial ointment is not necessarily the B.P. article (p. 203).

THE Pharmaceutical Society of Trinidad (one of the fifteen Societies for which the C. & D. is "the official organ") has had a successful annual reunion (p. 211).

THE work of the Poisons Committee and the issues involved are the subject of a communication on p. 215. A note on p. 197 indicates the importance of the statement.

THE DUELIN HIGH COURT has finally decided that the use of embossed aerated-water bottles by other makers than the owners is an infringement of the Merchandise-marks Act (p. 201).

EARLY-CLOSING OF SHOPS is now occupying the attention of the House of Lords (Lord Avebury's Bill), and the House of Commons has Sir Charles Dilke's Bill before it. The latter we summarise on p. 198.

THE DUDLEY BOROUGH ANALYST'S CERTIFICATE on an orange wine has been contested successfully, Dr. Paul, Mr. Gordon Salamon, Dr. Luff, and Mr. R. Bannister being witnesses for the defence (p. 203).

THE METHYLATED SOAP-LINIMENT CASE, in which Parke's Drug Stores (Limited) were defendants, has been decided against the company by Mr. D'Eyncourt, who imposed a fine of 20l. and ten guineas costs (p. 202).

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION is the subject of the week before local pharmaceutical associations, the Federation being partly responsible for much writing and oratory which we condense in our reports beginning on p. 189.

THERE is a marked absence of any feature in the drug and chemical markets this week, business being very dull. At the vanilla-sale on Wednesday the largest quantity on record was offered, the bulk of which sold at firm prices (p. 208).

## English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

### Brevities.

The dinner of the Huddersfield Chemists' Association has been postponed from February 5 to February 26.

In the North of London just now samples of acetum scillæ are being taken by the food and drugs inspectors with the view of testing the acid strength.

The committee of the Worcester Infirmary has accepted the tender of Messrs. Anderson & Virgo to supply drugs for the current year at 15 per cent. off the list-prices.

At a meeting held in Liverpool, on January 27, in support of a scheme for a local university, it was announced that 8,000% had already been subscribed towards the project.

The public analyst for Camberwell reports that during the quarter ending December 31, 1901, 245 samples of food and drugs had been analysed, and of that number 32 were adulterated.

The business premises occupied by Mr. Bertram G. Skipworth, chemist and druggist, at 15 Wharf Road, Grantham, were sold by auction on January 20, being purchased by Mr. Skipworth for 900%.

Joshua McDarban was committed for trial at the Gosport Petty Sessions on January 28, on a charge of embezzling various sums of money belonging to Dr. Kyffin with whom he had been employed as book-keeper and dispenser since September last.

At an inquest held at Lambeth on January 27, on the body of Augustus George Boore, a chemist's assistant, who was found dead in bed, the medical evidence showed that death was due to syncope consequent upon fatty degeneration of the heart.

At Wakefield County Court on January 22, the Pontefract Liqueur-refining Company obtained judgment for 10% 7s. against the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, for loss sustained through damage done to five casks of syrup, which Judge Raikes found had not been properly warehoused.

At Lancaster Assizes on January 27, William Anthony Trythall, a Coventry commercial traveller, was sentenced to six months' hard labour for obtaining money by means of bogus cheques, one of which purported to be drawn upon the banking account of Mr. Arthur Davis, a Leeds drysalter.

In a claim made by Mr. Stanley Smith, chemist and druggist, Tunbridge Wells, on January 23, against the South-Eastern Railway Company for 3% 15s., the value of a terrier, it was stated that the dog had escaped from the company's porter through the snapping of a chain supplied by the plaintiff. The Judge, after a lengthy hearing, found for the defendants.

At the Hull Police-court on January 21, a German steward on the s.s. *Albatross*, lying in the Prince's Dock, named Herman Burns, was charged with smuggling 1 lb. of saccharin. A Customs officer gave evidence of finding the saccharin in prisoner's trousers, and said that the single value and duty on the saccharin amounted to 2% 12s. Prisoner was fined 2% 13s. 6d., and costs 10s. 2d.

A fashionably attired lady, giving the name of Mina Stuart Simpson, was remanded at Windsor on January 26 on a charge of obtaining goods to the value of 1% 6s. from Mr. Edward Grisbrook, chemist and druggist, High Street, Windsor, by false pretences. Accused represented herself as the daughter of Lady Murray, and ordered certain perfumes and toilet articles to be sent to her house. Her representations being found to be devoid of truth, she was arrested.

Dr. Bynoe, formerly residing and carrying on the profession or business of a general practice in medicine, surgery, and dental surgery, at 1 Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W., is suing the Bank of England for 25,000% damages. In 1892 he was sentenced to a term of penal servitude for forging banknotes, and the jury afterwards described the sentence

as a miscarriage of justice. Dr. Bynoe's name was removed from the medical register, and the General Medical Council has refused to reinstate it.

### Politician and Pharmacist.

Alderman J. L. Seaton, J.P., pharmaceutical chemist, Hull, is the subject of an interesting sketch in a recent issue of the *Hull News*. Mr. Seaton is the senior alderman of the Corporation, which he entered in 1867. Six years later he filled the mayoral chair, and in the year following he was made an alderman. He interested himself deeply in the income-tax question, and his speeches on the subject, delivered all over the country, brought him into contact with the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone, Lord Beaconsfield, and Sir Stafford Northcote. During his mayoralty, in 1874, Alderman Seaton originated the Hospital Sunday movement in Hull. He is a Justice of the Peace, a member of the Humber Conservancy Board and of the Humber Pilot Commissioners, a Governor of Hymer's College, and the oldest Freemason of the Humber Lodge, which he joined in 1851. He was born at Chatham in 1820, and served his apprenticeship with Cooper & Chambers, wholesale druggists, Rochester. After acting successively as assistant and commercial traveller with that firm, he opened a pharmacy in Whitefriargate, Hull, in 1847. Being a homœopathist, the present Homœopathic Dispensary originated from his business. He subsequently founded the firm of J. L. Seaton & Co., oil bottlers and refiners.

### Not Arsenic the Cause.

With regard to the "arsenic-in-beer" revival in Halifax mentioned in our issue of January 18 (page 70), the adjourned inquiry was held on January 23. The first witness was Mr. J. F. Woodyatt, who gave an exhaustive account of the results of his *post-mortem* examination, and said death was due to pneumonia and not to arsenical poisoning. Samples of beer had been purchased from three public-houses, at one of which the deceased man drank on the Sunday prior to his death. Mr. A. H. Allen, the Sheffield public analyst, deposed to analysing the samples of beer, as well as the liver, kidneys, and intestines of the dead man. He did not think the traces of arsenic found had any definite significance. A verdict in accordance with this evidence was returned.

### Special Soap.

At Southwark Police Court on January 24, John Trunley, scavenger, and Mark Cook, watchman, were charged with stealing and receiving 30 lbs. of soap, value 6s., the property of Messrs. Peters & Bridges, skin-rug manufacturers, of Peckham. The soap when produced was in bars of such a peculiar colour that the Magistrate (Mr. Paul Taylor) observed that they looked more like bricks than soap. The cashier to the prosecutors said it was soap of the kind they used in dressing skins, and was specially made for their business. The prosecuting sergeant said it contained arsenic, and the police-constable who made the arrest said Trunley told him he got it for some of his mates to wash their trousers with, and also the legs of the Vestry horses. Both prisoners were sentenced to three months' hard labour.

### Cough-lozenges for Children.

On January 23 the Walsall Coroner (Mr. T. H. Stanley) held an inquest at Bloxwich, respecting the death of Edward Clark, aged one year and ten months. An elder brother of deceased brought home some linseed, liquorice and chlorodyne cough-lozenges, said to be manufactured by a firm in Walsall. Several members of the family partook of the lozenges, and all without ill effect except deceased, who was allowed to eat five of them, and some hours afterwards was seized with sickness, which continued at intervals during the night and next day. On the following day, as its condition became more serious, Dr. F. Wilson was called in, and found the child comatose. From what he was told he administered an emetic, and applied other remedies, but the child died next morning. A *post-mortem* examination showed the existence of intense irritation of the stomach, to which death was due, and this the doctor considered was produced by the lozenges, each of which contained about  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. of morphia. He explained that an adult might have felt no ill effect from taking  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. of morphia or even more in some cases, but with children it was very different, as



they were much more susceptible to morphia and opium. In this case deceased was a big, strong, healthy child. It was stated that deceased's brother, aged 13, ate nine of the lozenges, and the Coroner said he should imagine he had had a narrow escape. The Doctor: I should think so; if you eat two or three they will make you quite sleepy. The Coroner said the lozenges were in very common use, and this was borne out by members of the jury, who said tons of them were eaten, and that these were rather a better class—a remark which elicited the reply that they were certainly more effective. The Coroner having tried one of the lozenges said there was a perceptible burning sensation, and Dr. Wilson said he had no doubt they contained something besides morphia. A verdict of death by misadventure was returned, the Coroner remarking that the case would no doubt act as a warning to parents to keep such things out of the reach of young children.

#### Booming Bovril.

A thousand medical men practising in London and suburbs attended a reception at the premises of Bovril (Limited), Old Street, E.C., on January 23. Viscount Duncannon received the visitors, who were then conducted over the factory and offices in parties of twenty, and midway in their perambulations were entertained to luncheon in the labelling and wrapping-room which for the nonce had been converted into a refreshment-room. A tour of nearly the whole building was made by the visitors, and much appreciation was expressed at the perfected arrangements used in preparing, bottling, and packing bovril and the other specialities of the firm. Later on in the day another reception and tea was given to medical men unable to be present at the earlier function. The visits to the factory will no doubt do much to enhance the popularity of Bovril.

#### Birmingham Notes.

A curious announcement occurs in one of our city weeklies: "Mourner, you have no claim against the chemist; on your own showing he merely guaranteed the bottle."

In the Dudley orange-wine case "Mr. Paul, Editor of the *Lancet*," gave evidence, according to a local paper. When did the evergreen doctor forsake the pleasant groves of Bloomsbury?

A possessor of pigeons, desiring to get rid of some of them, gave them some opium pills, and, to his great surprise, found that it had not the desired effect. He afterwards learnt that these birds are as immune to opium as it is said cockroaches are to strychnine.

The accident at Moseley Reddings last Saturday in football calls for a complete first-aid outfit at each of these assemblies, and it seems an excellent chance for a pharmacist to devise a cheap one, with the wherewithals in a compact and portable form.

The Birmingham authorities are about to appoint a bacteriologist to their sewage-works at a salary of 160*l.* per annum. One dissentient, Dr. Evans, contended that bacteriological treatment of sewage is nothing more than the natural process, and no special officer was required other than the chemist.

A dentist, writing to the *Post*, asks it to gather statistics of the many unqualified practitioners of their profession in this city, and publish their names. The letter is full of righteous indignation and highly technical terms, but it does not cloak the fact that there are more sinners in the midst of them than without.

Sister against sister sounds dreadful, but it was only a Ping-pong tourney at the Bingley Hall on Saturday afternoon last, when the Misses Walseley were pitted against each other for award of first and second prize. These talented ladies are very well known, and have held excellent dispenserships at the local hospitals and surgeries of the Midlands. They have relinquished pharmacy.

The King has been pleased to accept a book on "The War against Consumption," which has been written by two of Birmingham's worthy sons, Drs. D. and J. Vinrace, now practising in London, sons of Dr. John Vinrace, who has practised medicine in this city for over fifty years. They received their medical education in our city, and saw much practice at the General and Children's Hospitals.

A customer entered an oilshop for some vermilion, and was told they did not sell it, but could supply vermillionette, which for the particular purpose required seemed to answer very well. What was it? It has been suggested that it is one of the many methods adopted to avoid the sale of poisonous preparations by the great unqualified. For example, red-lead is often sold in our city by drysalters for red precipitate, and spermaceti ointment for white-precipitate ointment.

#### Leeds Notes.

Leeds people are seeking immunity from the smallpox by re-vaccination, and the demand for calf-lymph has suddenly sprang up to unprecedented dimensions.

Mrs. Martha Ellen Shillito, widow of the late Mr. Richard Shillito, chemist, of Meadow Lane, Leeds, died at Beeston Hill, Leeds, on January 15. She was 72 years of age.

An owner of a large stud had a talk with a correspondent on Wednesday, on the alleged drugging of horses on the Yorkshire wolds. He said that the lads drug the animals to make them sleek and bright in their coats. It had been a common practice for years past for the lads on the isolated wold farms to get the carriers to bring them certain drugs from the chemists in the neighbouring towns, and he was glad to hear that some of the carriers had already refused to take any drugs. He wished that every carrier would follow the example and that the druggists of the various towns would refuse to supply farm-lads with deadly drugs, or even deleterious mixtures of any kind, unless they had some proof that they were needed by their employers, and were procured with their knowledge. Druggists, he believed, would be ready to help to put a stop to the practice when they knew more of the evil results of supplying certain drugs indiscriminately to farm-lads.

#### Wholesale Druggists' Cricket Championship.

In the past season the League table resulted as follows:—

—	Played	Won	Lost	Points
Wellcome C.C. ...	9	8	1	16
Davy Hill's C.C. ...	9	7	2	14
Kindrug C.C. ...	7	3	4	6
Burgoyne's C.C. ...	7	1	6	2
City Mills' C.C. ...	8	1	7	2

The Wellcome C.C. and Davy Hill's C.C. tied for first place, and on playing the deciding match, the Wellcome C.C. won by 10 runs. The annual concert, as announced on page 214, takes place on February 14, and is to be good.

#### A Chloroform Case.

On January 21 Mrs. Margaret Ann Hothersall (30), of Low Moor, Clitheroe, visited the rooms of Thomas Crook and James Lancaster, artificial-teeth makers, of Castle View, Clitheroe, and of Blackburn, for the purpose of having some teeth extracted, and at her own request chloroform was administered. After the teeth had been drawn she did not recover satisfactorily, and Dr. Barker was called in. Artificial respiration and other means were tried without success, life being extinct. At the inquest the following afternoon, it was stated that Crook and Lancaster were unregistered dentists, their sign bearing the words—

Teeth extracted painlessly, and artificial teeth supplied. Also specialists for skin-diseases.

The housekeeper at Castle View, where Lancaster and Crook practised, deposed that deceased expressed a wish to have chloroform. Crook, Lancaster, and witness all tried to dissuade deceased, and the two men got her to consent to have gas, but this was scarcely applied before it gave out, and chloroform was then administered on a pocket-handkerchief. As soon as she had "gone off," Lancaster drew the teeth, and before he had the last one out she seemed to be coming round and opened her eyes. Mr. Lancaster thereupon got her up to wash out her mouth, but she collapsed, and he at once sent for Dr. Barker.

Dr. Barker stated that when he was called to the house he found deceased being supported in a semi-upright posi-

tion on the sofa in the front room. He immediately placed her flat on the sofa with her head low. Artificial respiration and hot fomentation over the heart were applied, but without effect. Apparently none of the ordinary means had been taken prior to his arrival to restore deceased. The position in which he found deceased was an unfortunate one. His opinion was that the woman died from asphyxia from chloroform-poisoning. He could not say whether he could have saved her had he been five minutes sooner. The heart may have gone first, even under chloroform, suddenly.

Mr. Knowles (for the dentists): I take it chloroform is safe, even for a child of 2 years of age?

It is never particularly safe, even with the greatest care in administration. Deaths have taken place under chloroform when under medical care.

James Lancaster, who described himself as an artificial-teeth maker, of Whalley New Road, Blackburn, said he did not measure the chloroform he administered to deceased. He got four teeth out in about six seconds, and immediately he had done he lifted deceased up so that the blood would come out of her mouth. When she collapsed he got a bottle of ammonia and put it to her nose, and told Mr. Crook to run for the doctor. The upright position the doctor spoke of was only momentary. Asked by the Coroner whether he had any medical qualification, Lancaster said he had not, but he had as much qualification as other dentists, having gone through the same colleges, though he was not registered. There were 95 out of every 100 who had not passed at all.

Examined by Mr. Knowles, Lancaster said he had been in Clitheroe fifteen months, and during that time had administered chloroform between 300 and 400 times successfully. His partner, Crook, had more medical qualifications than himself. He did not know the amount of chloroform he administered; he simply gave it till the patient lost consciousness.

After half-an-hour's deliberation in private, the jury found—

That Margaret Ann Hothersall had died from an overdose of chloroform unskillfully administered by James Lancaster and Thomas Crook, and, further, that they, by the means and manner aforesaid, did kill and slay the said Margaret Ann Hothersall.

On January 25 the two men appeared at the Clitheroe Police Court, in answer to a charge of manslaughter.

The Chief Constable, who prosecuted, briefly related the statements disclosed at the inquest.

Mr. Knowles, who defended, asked several of the witnesses whether the original verdict of the Coroner's jury at the inquest had not been altered on the suggestion of the Coroner? Dr. Barker admitted that something was added to it, but he did not think it amounted to a verdict. Dr. Smithies, who made a *post-mortem* examination in conjunction with Dr. Barker, said he was prepared to swear that deceased died from the inhalation of the fumes of chloroform. The Chief Constable said Crook went to his office, told him of the occurrence, and requested witness to go with him to Castle View. Both Crook and Lancaster told him they were not dental surgeons, nor were they registered dentists. Dr. Barker, recalled, said prisoners had employed the method usually adopted in administering chloroform, but had not used the special graduated bottle generally employed.

The prisoners were committed for trial at the Liverpool Assizes.

#### Sundry Claims.

In the Westminster County Court on January 27, Judge Woodfall had before him on a default summons the case of Johnson v. Kirby, in which the plaintiff claimed payment of an order in respect of chemicals supplied to the defendant. The debtor did not appear, but plaintiff said he was the proprietor of a preparation for hair, and was well able to pay. An order for payment in fourteen days with costs was made.—On the following day in the case of Foxley v. Braham the plaintiff sought to enforce payment of a judgment debt due from the defendant, a chemist's assistant, and an order for payment at the rate of 1*l.* a month was made.—In another case on the same day (Tuesday) his Honour Judge Woodfall had before him a case in which plaintiff, a fancy-goods dealer, named Benham, sought to enforce payment of an order in respect of trade goods supplied to the defendant, a

chemist, named Titcombe, until recently carrying on business at Clapham Road, S.W. The plaintiff said that since the goods had been supplied the defendant had sold his business for a considerable sum, but had not made the slightest effort to pay this debt. An order was made for payment in a fortnight subject to committal in default.

#### The L.G.B. Adamant.

The Local Government Board is not generous to Poor-Law dispensers. No matter what their extra duties in times of extraordinary illness there is the inevitable refusal to give increased pay. The Holborn Board of Guardians asked permission to increase the salary of Mr. N. Colbeck, dispenser at their Highgate Infirmary, because of good services rendered; but on January 22 a letter from the Local Government Board was read at the Guardians' meeting, in which it was stated that the Board are not prepared to make an exception to the rule as to dispensers' salaries.

#### Methylated Spirit Internally.

At an inquest held at Wyggeston Hospital on January 20, a nurse stated that the deceased, a male inmate 90 years of age, had been in bed for a year and a half. He was getting some medicine internally, and she had been in the habit of rubbing his back with methylated spirit to prevent bedsores. One day by inadvertence she gave him a tablespoonful of the methylated spirit in place of his medicine. Both bottles were the same in colour and shape, but were properly labelled. The deceased died two days afterwards from "over-stimulation acting on an enfeebled circulation followed by collapse, and caused by the dose of methylated spirit." Had deceased been a younger man the spirit, according to the medical evidence, would have had little ill effect. Death from misadventure was the verdict.

#### Masonic.

At the annual installation of the Sutherland Lodge of Unity No. 460 of Freemasons, held on January 24 at Newcastle-under-Lyne, Brothers D. H. Oxen, chemist and druggist, and C. J. Wain, pharmaceutical chemist, were installed S.W. and J.D. respectively.

#### The Week's Poisonings.

Nine fatalities from poisoning are reported, which, with the single exception of carbonic oxide, are attributed to scheduled poisons. Prussic acid was taken by a veterinary surgeon at Chelsea and by a chemist at Tranmere. Three laudanum suicides are recorded, and one each from morphine, carbolic acid, and oxalic acid. The fatality from carbonic oxide which took place at Leeds, was said to be due to the naked flame of a paraffin-oil lamp burning in an insufficiently ventilated room. The Medical Officer of Health for Bermondsey reported last week twenty-one cases of poisoning from tyrotoxicon, found in some cheese imported from Holland. Into a house in Leeds adjoining a bakehouse sulphur fumes penetrated from a defective flue, rendering the inmates unconscious. Two of the family recovered, but an elderly woman was removed to the infirmary suffering from sulphur-poisoning.

## Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### Personal.

Mr. R. Keating Clay (solicitor to the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland) was last week, on the motion of the President of the Society (Mr. G. D. Beggs), elected Chairman of the Dalkey Urban Council.

#### Good Drugs.

Mr. Henry Boyers, pharmaceutical chemist, Sligo, came in for a word of praise at the meeting of the Tobercurry Guardians on January 20, the occasion being the report of the analyst (Sir Charles Cameron) that the drugs examined,



and which had been supplied by Mr. Boyers, were all up to the standard.

#### Theoretical Chemistry.

The class for theoretical chemistry and physics of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, which is held at the Society's house, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, starts on Tuesday, February 4. Mr. Thomas A. Shegog will conduct the class on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 P.M. to 9.30 P.M. The syllabus can be obtained from the Registrar.

#### Guardians' Loss.

There was some discussion at the meeting of the Sligo Board of Guardians on January 18, relative to the loss of 200*l.* rebate, incurred by the neglect of the late Clerk to the Board to forward samples of drugs for analysis as required by the L.G.B. regulations. The Clerk was directed to write again and see if anything can be done to avert the loss.

#### Irish Municipal Elections.

The following candidates connected with the drug-trade have been returned as councillors:—

Mr. Robert Lyons, druggist, High Street, Omagh.  
Sir Thomas Robinson, Kingston.  
Mr. John Watson, Belfast.  
Mr. John A. Woodside, L.P.S.I., Ballymena.

#### Contractor Explains.

Mr. White, Sligo, attended at the meeting of the Swinford Guardians on January 21, relative to adverse exports of the analyst on drugs supplied. The L.G.B. had called the Guardians' attention to an unsatisfactory explanation regarding tinctures of opium and iodine supplied to Keltimagh Dispensary. Mr. White explained that the tinctures were over strength, and complained of the L.G.B., who seemed to be trying to run him out of every drug-contract he had with the different Unions. It was unanimously decided to continue Mr. White as drug-contractor.

#### Demurrage Case.

The judgment in the case of Messrs. Morel (Limited), Cardiff, *v.* Messrs. Goulding (Limited), Cork, in which a demurrage claim of 208*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* was made for a cargo of sulphur ore, was delivered on January 27 in the King's Bench Division of the Dublin High Court. The verdict for the defendants previously given in the lower court was sustained.

#### Selling Dispensary Medicines.

The complaint of a guardian (Mr. Mackin) of the Granard Union, that a doctor had sold dispensary medicines (*C. S. D.*, January 25), again came before the Board of Guardians at its last meeting in the shape of the following letter:—

Gentlemen,—With reference to the letter of the Local Government Board asking for the names of the medical officers who, it was alleged, sold dispensary medicines, I have to state that the parties who did so are not in the Union at present, and as we have nothing further to do with them I must refuse to give their names; but, seeing that there are two vacancies to be filled on the medical staff of the Union, and lest the men should be ignorant of, or overlook, the dispensary regulations, I thought it my duty to direct public attention to the matter, and so prevent these frauds on the sick poor. Believing I have done my duty in the matter, I must respectfully decline to have anything further to say or do with it.—Yours, &c., P. MACKIN.

The letter was marked "Read."

## Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

#### The Kinninmont Prize.

The examination (which is a written one, the subjects being botany, magnetism, and electricity) for this annual prize will be held in Glasgow in May or June. Assistants in Glasgow and the counties of Argyll, Ayr, Bute, Dumbarton, Dumfries, Kirkcudbright, Lanark, Renfrew, and Wigtown, who have qualified two years previous to the examination, are

eligible to compete. Assistants who have served their apprenticeship in these districts, but have removed outside the radius within twelve months of the examination, will also be eligible. Intending competitors should send in their names to the Secretary, Mr. W. L. Currie, 223 Byres Road, Dowanhill, Glasgow.

#### Personal.

The Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association is to entertain Mr. James Clark, Ph.C., at dinner, and present him with an address, prior to his departure for London to take up a position with Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.

#### Poisoning.

George Blyth (64), a grocer and sub-postmaster in the mining village of Glencraig, near Dunfermline, died on January 24 from the effects of swallowing an overdose of laudanum.

A hawker named Halpin was found in an unconscious condition near Galashiels, with a bottle containing oil of vitriol near him. He was restored sufficiently to appear at the police court on January 27, when he told the Bailie that he had had a shock on the left side, and used the vitriol (diluted) to relieve his suffering. The Bailie discharged him with an admonition.

#### An Example to the Empire.

The chemists of the country may well "keep their eye on Paisley." There the principal members of the craft live in peace and amity, and by joint action are able not only to close their shops at 8 P.M. but to have a Tuesday half-holiday in addition. This goes on all the year round and works beautifully. As for night-bell fees, late calls are hardly ever made, the public being educated to the point of respecting the leisure-hours of the chemist, save only in cases of dire necessity.

#### Glasgow Notes.

A lady (30), tall and refined, &c., wishes, through the *Citizen*, to meet business gentleman; qualified chemist preferred.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie has just sent his promised cheque for 25,000*l.* to the building-fund of the Glasgow and West of Scotland Technical College.

It will cost 170,000*l.* to carry out the scheme for reconstructing the Royal Infirmary, now definitely adopted. Much of the money is still to be found.

In addition to the three dispensaries which the Govan Parish Council have opened, as reported in our last issue, they intend to establish a laboratory for the manufacture of their own galenicals.

A pauper patient died suddenly on January 21 in the surgery of Dr. J. S. Rankin, Cumberland Street, and when his body was searched over 21*l.* was found in the pockets, and savings-bank books showing total credits of 90*l.*

A medical man from the East End has been called as a witness before the Committee on the Poisons Schedules. He will probably give important evidence as to the scrupulous observance in doctors' shops of the regulations for the storage and sale of poisons.

It is claimed that the x-ray treatment of cancer, now being boomed as of American origin, has been employed successfully for the past eighteen months in the Royal Infirmary here by Dr. Faulds. The distinctive merit of the treatment is its efficacy in the recurrent form of the malady.

A chemist, learned in pharmacy law, has been making some of the local medicos who dispense their own prescriptions uncomfortable, by pointing out to them that their habitual practice of sending out bottles and packages containing scheduled poisons without their name and address, and of failing to enter such prescriptions in a book kept for the purpose, is a breach of the Pharmacy Act.

The public are at last discovering that the chemist is a scientific man. At Paisley the other day an old farmer handed a chemist a hunk of stone, with a request that he would test it for silver, and recently a painter brought a Glasgow suburban chemist several parcels of "painters'

stuff," which had been offered to him for sale. The chemist, who keeps up his practical work and has a complete set of B.P. reagents, was able to identify all the specimens, and to inform his client that what he imagined to be whiting or stucco, was really sulphate of barium. The painter was effusively grateful, but walked away without mentioning a fee, and the "scientific gent" was too diffident to call him back. Knowledge, like virtue, is often its own reward, but that form of return does not pay rent and taxes.

The chemists' windows now present a thoroughly seasonable appearance. Malt preparations, cod-liver oil, and emulsions seem to be the favourite articles. One small store evidently aims at a display suitable for all seasons, as the bottles of cod-liver oil and cough-mixture alternate with salines. Several still inform the public that Christmas presents may be had within, which seems to suggest that some windows are not dressed frequently. Mr. M. P. Thomson announces his annual "clearing sale of high-class perfumery and toilet-articles; great reductions." He still has the most elegant window-display in the city. Mr. Robinson displays in St. Vincent's Pharmacy a testimonial for his speciality from Dan Leno, who finds that cocalypthols are all that singers and speakers require.

#### Photographics.

At the monthly meeting of the Blairgowrie Photographic Association the results of a pictorial-postcard competition were announced, in which the second prize was taken by Mr. J. D. Petrie, chemist and druggist, Blairgowrie.

The Dundee and East of Scotland Photographic Association has been in existence over twenty years, the President of the year being Mr. W. E. Hill. Monthly meetings are held in University College during the winter session (October to May), and the Association has club-rooms at 39 High Street, Dundee, which are open daily (summer and winter) for the use of members.

An International Photographic Exhibition will be held, under the auspices of the Dundee and East of Scotland Photographic Association, in the Victoria Art Galleries, Dundee, on January 31, and will remain open for four weeks. The judges in the "picture" section are Messrs. J. Craig Annan and Mr. Crooke, and Mr. A. Horsley Hinton will adjudicate in the class comprising "lantern-slides and lecturette."

#### Family Jars.

An action has been raised in the Court of Session by John Miller, chemist, 6 Woodlands, Langside, Glasgow, against his brother-in-law, Henry Adam, engineer, South Lambeth, London, for 250*l.* damages for alleged slander. Pursuer states that before he settled in Glasgow he was employed in Mexico, and that while there he gave defender employment and boarded him. Defender and his sister had an interest in heritable property in Govan regarding which differences arose, and in January last year the defender is said to have written to his sister which contained grave reflections on pursuer's character. Mrs. Miller has also raised an action against her brother, in which she claims 250*l.* as damages for statements made against her character in the same letter.

## French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**PRO-BOER PHARMACY.**—Pate Kruger is the name given by an enterprising Paris pharmacist to a cough-lozenge with a basis of eucalyptus. He sent a sample box to the ex-President, who replied, "Hartelijk Dank!" which was taken as a sign of great appreciation, and the lozenge was at once named in his honour.

**VANILLA FROM THE COLONIES.**—A decree has been issued fixing at 10,000 kilos. the quantity of vanilla produced in French establishments in Oceania (Tahiti and its dependencies), which, from July 1 1901, to June 30, 1902, is to be allowed a deduction of 50 per cent. of the ordinary import-duty on importation into France.

**AN ANECDOTE FROM GERMANY.**—It is related that a French pharmacist recently sent his son to Germany to learn

the language and placed him with an apotheker in business near Frankfort. This pharmacist happened to have a contract for supplying the local German garrison, and in due course he received a notice from the military authorities forbidding him employing the French lad.

**COMMERCIAL PHARMACY.**—The Syndicate of the Grandes Pharmacies Commerciales de France held its annual meeting a few days ago in Paris, when questions relative to the development of the commercial element in French pharmacy were discussed, and M. Mille, a pharmacist of Paris, was re-elected President. Various resolutions were passed with a view to obtaining a reduction in the amount of the Paris City dues on certain products used in pharmacy, and especially on alcohol and cod-liver oil.

**CO-OPERATIVE PHARMACY** seems to have at last secured a firm footing in France, although a great effort has been made to nip it in the bud. It was the subject of a long lawsuit some time since between the pharmacists of Marseilles and the local co-operative, or mutual-help, societies, resulting in a favourable judgment for the latter. Other southern towns, including Toulouse, Toulon, and Limoges, have now their co-operative pharmacies, and other centres are adopting the same course. There is no doubt that pharmacists in French country towns will feel this competition rather severely if it develops.

**ASSURANCE AGAINST ILLNESS.**—The Grand Dache of Luxembourg has just introduced a law rendering assurance against illness obligatory for that class of people whose earnings are less than 3,000*fr.* (120*l.*) per annum. The cost of the insurance is rated at 3 per cent of the wages, two-thirds being paid by the worker and one-third by the employer, the latter being responsible for the payment of the premium. The persons insured get, in case of illness, medical attendance and drugs and medicines free, as well as a cash payment of a sum equal to half their wages for each working day. In case of death the widow receives an amount equal to twenty times the daily wage. Women receive half their wages for four weeks in cases of accouchement.

**AMOR VINCIT OMNIA.**—Mlle. X— was the proprietor of a well-kept officine not a hundred miles from the Paris School of Pharmacy, of which she is a graduate. On starting business, mindful alike of Mrs. Grundy and of the interests of her sex, she decided to employ a female assistant, and engaged a young lady, Mlle. V—, in that capacity. But, alas! the little god that laughs at locksmiths is not to be denied admission to a pharmacy, and the young lady assistant had a brother who was a student at the Paris School of Pharmacy. So it comes about that the name of Mlle. X— on the pharmacy door is followed by the discreet addition "Mme. Y—," for the lady pharmacist and her assistant's brother are now man and wife. When he takes his pharmaceutical degree, perhaps there will be a pharmacy less in Paris kept by a lady.

## South African News.

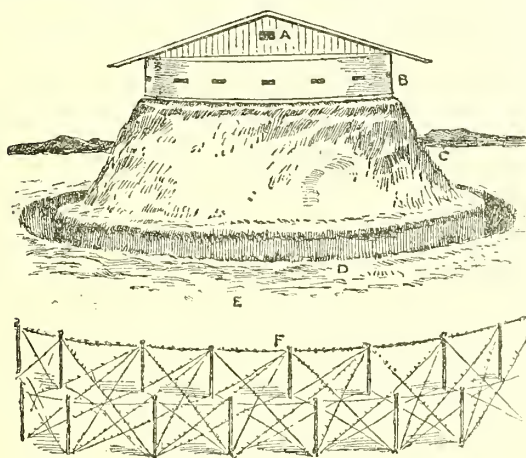
**UNIFORM PRICES.**—The Cape Town Prices-adjustment Committee has commenced its labours, and it is expected that a uniform price-list, so far as retail prices are concerned, will be ready and presented to the trade at a meeting for confirmation at no distant date. The task of adjusting the retail prices for patents and proprietary articles probably forms one of the most difficult features of the scheme. As in home centres the grocer has to be reckoned with for patents, the outfitters in Cape Town handle perfumes and the general stores sell both perfumes and soaps at cut prices, admitting they do not want profit on this class of business. In St. George's Street the other day a furnishing ironmonger's window was filled with toilet-soaps, but, to give the ironmonger his due, full prices were put on the goods.

**MORE ROOM.**—Anyone who has seen the handsome structure in Cape Town which comprises the headquarters of Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co. in South Africa would imagine that with such a vast amount of floor space there should be plenty of room for the conduct of a wholesale



business. So there is, but the distance from European markets forces local firms to carry enormous stocks, and it is to relieve the Adderley Street premises that a further property has had to be acquired, which will be used as a general store for the more bulky merchandise handled in the course of every-day trade in South Africa. It is a significant fact that of the many merchants' stores in Cape Town, those associated with the drug-trade are among the finest.

**A BLOCKHOUSE.**—We reproduce herewith a sketch which appeared in a recent issue of the *Weekly Scotsman*. It represents a blockhouse, and was drawn by Mr. J. D. Horsburgh, chemist and druggist, who is at present with the R.A.M.C. somewhere in the neighbourhood of Vrede, in the north-east of the Orange River Colony. Mr. Horsburgh sent the sketch and the following description of its construction to his mother at Aberdour House, Fife, to whose courtesy we are indebted for the paper containing it:—



A—In important blockhouses a loophole for a Maxim gun; in any case a ventilator. B—Loopholes for rifle fire. C—Earthworks. D—Trench 4 to 6 feet deep and 6 feet wide. E—An open space for "sentry-go" and playing skittles. F—Barbed-wire fencing.

Mr. Horsburgh states that four of these houses are erected in one day by about a hundred natives and twenty engineers to each. They begin at the trench, throwing the earth into the centre. When sufficient height is got in the middle a circle (about 24 feet diameter and 3 feet high) of galvanised iron is put in, another of the same added, and then banked round until a bullet-proof mound surrounds the whole. The top part, containing the loopholes, is in a double cylinder, packed with small stones to make it impervious to rifle fire.

**PRACTISING IN THE TRANSVAAL.**—The appointment of Health Boards has been notified for the towns of Heidelberg, Vereeniging, Potchefstroom, Klerksdorp, Boksburg, and Germiston. A proclamation has been issued making provision, until the establishment of a Medical Board, for duly qualified persons to practise as medical practitioners, dentists, and chemists and druggists. One clause provides that no licence should be granted to applicants to practise as physicians, surgeons, or dentists, on any degree, diploma, or certificate of any foreign university or medical school, unless it be proved that such degree or diploma entitles the holder to practise in his own country, and that, by the laws of such country, in which the degree or diploma is conferred. British subjects legally qualified to practise in Great Britain and Ireland are afforded privileges equivalent to those granted by licences under this proclamation.

THERE IS SOMETHING LIKE A STORM raging here in medical circles, writes our Cape Town correspondent, under date January 7, the cause of which is as follows: Towards the middle of last year Dr. Gregory was appointed medical officer of health for the Cape Colony. Outside officialdom a doubt existed as to whether Dr. Gregory held the necessary

qualifications for such a high post. Shortly after the appointment had been made a letter appeared in the now-defunct paper *Greater Britain*, commenting thereon, and was signed "An Old Colonist." For some unexplained reason the editress divulged the name of the writer, who turns out to have been Dr. Scholtz. Dr. Gregory then drew the attention of the Medical Council to the matter, in whose hands it was left. Section 13 of the Medical and Pharmacy Act, 1899, provides that if a medical man is found, after due inquiry, to be guilty of "unprofessional conduct" he may be reprimanded and cautioned; if guilty of "intamorous or disgraceful conduct" his licence may be withdrawn. Dr. Scholtz is an elected member of the Medical Council. The result of the investigation by the Medical Council will not, of course, become public property, since they simply tender their recommendations to the Government, who alone can act in extreme cases; but according to a section of the local Press Dr. Scholtz is to lose his licence, and more is to be heard of the business in the courts. Perhaps, however, seeing the necessary publicity has attended the proceedings, the affair will blow over.

**BECAME ATTACHED TO IT.**—Dr. Stanley Hodgson, recently medical officer to the West African Hinterland Consolidated (Limited), in the course of a report on the climatic conditions of West Africa, says: "The daily taking of quinine was proceeded with during the whole of the time we were in the bush, and the health condition of the men was such that on the march back they would rather have gone without their breakfasts any morning than without the quinine."

## Australasian News.

**MEDICAL PRIVILEGES.**—The case of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria *v.* Andrew Honman (*C. & D.*, January 11, page 39) came on at the Williamstown Police-court on December 13, 1901. Mr. Honman is a medical man, and is registered under the Firms Act as one of the proprietors of the business of T. M. Blakett & Sons, Williamstown, and the Pharmacy Board prosecuted him for illegally carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist. The defendant relied on the exemption contained in the Act referring to the rights and privileges of any legally qualified medical man. The Bench found that defendant did not carry on the business of a chemist and druggist on the date mentioned, and dismissed the case with 10*s.* costs for defendant. An application was made on December 17 to the higher court for an order to review the decision.

**GERMAN PERFUMERY IN AUSTRALIA.**—The German Export Bank of Berlin have received the following letter from Sydney:—"Although there is a good market here for perfumery, there is practically no demand for the German made article. A liberal distribution of free samples would perhaps stimulate the business. Only a short time ago we received from a German maker an empty bottle, nicely labelled and got up in good style, but with no perfume inside. We should only be laughed at here if such samples were shown. The English and still more the American manufacturers are incomparably more obliging with respect to samples. An agent we know has lately received fourteen cases containing twelve bottles each as gratis samples for distribution, and the firm in question allowed him 10*s.* per month until further notice towards expenses. Without an arrangement of this sort people here are unwilling to introduce foreign and unknown brands. Therefore we cannot accept any agency before we know what proposals German houses are willing to make."

**A SKIN-LOTION.**—In the Supreme Court, Melbourne, on December 10, 1901, Mrs. Augusta Griffiths sought to recover from Messrs. Martin & Co., chemists and druggists, Perth, 200*s.* as damages for personal injuries said to have been sustained by using "Youkno," a lotion prepared by the defendants for putting on the hands and face to keep away insects. It was stated that the bottles containing the preparation were labelled "Perfectly harmless, and serves to whiten, soften, and beautify the skin." The effect of the application on the plaintiff had been to cause a skin-

disease to break out on her, giving her great pain and preventing her following her occupation as a dressmaker. Evidence was given by Mr. McClure, manager for Messrs. A. M. Bickford & Sons, wholesale druggists, and Mr. Garner, manager for Messrs. F. H. Faulding & Co., wholesale druggists, regarding the sale of "Youkno." Both witnesses deposed that during the past few years they had sold large quantities of the preparation, and had never heard of any harmful effects from its use. Mrs. Griffiths said she used the lotion—a bottle of which her husband had procured from a chemist in Freemantle—to keep away mosquitoes. She applied the stuff to the backs of her hands, at intervals, for ten days, with the result that blisters broke out, and she had to have medical attendance for about a month, until the sores were healed. Two bottles of the lotion were analysed by Mr. Samuel S. Dougall, who said each bottle contained 99 per cent. of kerosene with a little phenol and some citreovella and verberna oils. Two doctors, who attended the plaintiff, expressed the opinion that the inflammation on her hands was caused by the application of kerosene. For the defence Dr. Astles, who saw the plaintiff in Freemantle, said she was suffering from a pustular form of eczema which might have been in her system, and would be brought out by hard water or soap. He (the doctor) had used "Youkno" on many occasions during the past summer on his face and hands, and had recommended it to many people, and no ill-effects resulted. Another medical man was of opinion that "Youkno" would not cause eczema unless there existed in the person using it a predisposition to the complaint. The case was adjourned.

### East Indian News.

**A WITHDRAWAL.**—Dr. Wilkins' sarsaparilla, the American imitation of the original British preparation, has been finally withdrawn from the bazaars of India.

**PERSONAL.**—Mr. Alexander Wilson, representing Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb, 60 Bartholomew Close, London, E.C., was in Bombay when the mail left.—Messrs. Grimault, of Paris, also had a representative doing ground for the first time at Bombay.

**A WARNING TO SHIPPERS.**—A fearful ingenuity, remarks the *Civil and Military Gazette*, is exhibited by the Customs authorities at Karachi in interpreting the law. Not long after stopping some goods for Lahore, marked "Made in Berlin," because they were not marked with the country of origin, the Karachi officials stopped some carbon enamel, such as brewers use for enamelling casks, on the ground that it contained alcohol which was not rendered unfit for drinking purposes. The Karachi officials, after submitting the enamel to the Government analyst, found they were wrong. They thereupon let the enamel pass—after charging the shipper with the analyst's fee.

### Business Changes.

**BRIGGS' DRUG-STORES** is about to be opened at 197 Hoxton Street, Hoxton, N.

**MESSRS. SWIRE & CO.** have opened a pharmacy at South Gosforth, near Carnforth.

**BUTTERFIELD'S DRUG-STORES** have been opened at 2 Franklin Road (next door to the Drill Hall), Harrogate.

**THE SPITALFIELDS DRUG-STORE COMPANY** have recently acquired new premises at 9 Fournier Street, Commercial Street, E.

**MR. REGINALD HALSTEAD**, F.C.S., nephew of Mr. T. Farries, has, as from January 1, been admitted a partner of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burdidges & Co., 16 Coleman Street, E.C.

**MR. F. S. CULLEN**, of St. James' Pharmacy, Norwich, has just opened new corner premises in the Magdalen Road, where he intends running a high-class modern drug-store on strictly store-lines.

**MR. T. W. HARRIS**, fourteen years manager for Messrs. W. Bites & Co., Oxford Street, Southampton, has taken premises

in Above Bar Street, and, when alterations are complete, is going to open as an ophthalmic optician, belt and truss maker, &c.

**THE company carrying on business at Newcastle, Staffs.**, as Oxen & Co. (Limited), chemists, druggists, and medicine vendors, has been voluntarily wound up. The business will in future be carried on by Mr. David H. Oxen, chemist and druggist, in his own name.

### Birth.

**VALLANCE**—At Fieldhead, Mansfield, Notts, on January 26, the wife of Arthur C. Vallance, pharmaceutical chemist, of a son.

### Marriages.

**BOLTON—FOWLER.**—On January 15, at St. James's Church, Hull, by the Rev. D. K. Moore, Henry William Bolton, H.M. Customs, Newhaven, Sussex, to Elizabeth Mary Deborah (Debby), eldest daughter of Mr. Edwin Fowler, chemist and druggist, Hull.

**GRIEVE—MURRAY.**—At Edinburgh, by special licence, on January 24, Robert Grieve, chemist, Selkirk, to Jessie Welsh or Murray, Delhaig, Gorgie.

### Deaths.

**BENNETT.**—On January 23, Mr. Alfred William Bennett, M.A., E.Sc., the well-known botanist, died suddenly on an omnibus in London. He was born at Clapham in 1833, and was educated at University College, London. He edited with Sir W. Thiselton Dyer the English edition of Sachs's "Text-book of Botany," 1875, and had written several important botanical works.

**HOLLAND.**—At Kettering, on January 22, Mr. John James Holland, dispenser to Messrs. J. W. & L. W. Dryland, surgeons. Aged 45. Mr. Holland was found lying on the floor in the drug-store room quite dead. Death was due to apoplexy.

**JESSOP.**—On January 22, at Septon, near Huddersfield, Mr. Thomas J. Jessop, of H. Jessop & Sons, chemical-manufacturers, Fenay Bridge. Aged 65.

**POTT.**—At 72 Old Chester Road, Tranmere, Cheshire, on January 23, Mr. Frederick Fore Pott, chemist and druggist. Aged 51. Mr. Pott, who had been worried and depressed by financial affairs, committed suicide with prussic acid.

**WEBSTER.**—At Bangor, on January 21, Mr. Thomas Webster, son of Mr. Thomas Webster, chemist and druggist, Bangor. Aged 25. Mr. Webster served his apprenticeship with his father, and after a short period of study in Liverpool he came to London, where he was for about two years an assistant with Messrs. Morgan Brothers, chemists, King's Cross, N. From London he went as an assistant to Mr. Lloyd, of Walton-on-the-Naze, returning to Bangor in the end of September.

**WILLIAMS.**—At Bury, on January 27, suddenly, Mr. Robert Williams, assistant to Mr. Crompton, chemist, 41 Stanley Street, Bury. Aged 19.

### Recent Will.

**KERSHAW.**—The will of Mr. Sam Kershaw, chemist and druggist, Formby, who died on June 5, has been proved at the District Registry at Liverpool, by his executors, Mr. James Kershaw, of "The Dol," Oxenhope, near Keighley, worsted manufacturer, the father, and Mr. Thomas Birtwistle, of Cheltenham, provision merchant. The gross estate is valued at 5907. 0s. 10d.



## Winter Session.

### Chemists' and Druggists' Society of Ireland.

THE committee of this Society met on January 22 at Garfield Chambers, Belfast, Mr. Robert Cumbridge (Carrickfergus) in the chair. After the minutes had been read, the opportunity was taken to congratulate Mr. John Watson, one of the Vice-Presidents, on his election as a city councillor for Victoria Ward, to which Mr. WATSON replied.

A report in reference to the drug classes recently started in the Municipal Institute was presented and passed.

#### SHOP-HOURS.

A petition in favour of the Shop-hours (Early Closing) Bill was submitted and passed, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary being empowered to sign and forward it to the Right Hon. Lord Avebury, who has since introduced the Bill again, as as the Government have intimated that they do not intend to deal with the question.

It was decided to hold the annual business and social meeting on February 27, and Messrs. Jamison, Gibson, Carse, Frackleton, Walsh, and the Hon. Secretary were appointed as a committee to carry out all the arrangements.

#### MINIMUM PRICES.

A report was presented by the Prices Committee, which stated that several firms were trying to fix minimum non-cutting prices, which was looked upon as a step in the right direction; and as it was considered that a large number of proprietary articles, especially foods, were now sold by grocers, it was decided to wait on the Grocers' Association in order to bring the matter of fair prices before the members. Messrs. Carse, Walsh, and the Hon. Secretary were asked to act.

The committee then adjourned.

#### THE ANNUAL MUSICAL EVENING

of the Society was successfully brought off in the Whitehall Buildings, Belfast, on January 24. Mr. James Tate occupied the chair, and there was an excellent attendance. A splendid programme was gone through, the following taking part: Messrs. C. Abernethy, T. W. Gibson, J. Harper, John Morrison, James McCormick, R. Dimond, S. Holmes, Leggett, Burland, King, Firth, McDade, and McDowell; Misses Ida Corbett, Magill, Orr, McCamley, Tumath, Grills, Nora Corbett, and McDowell; and the evening concluded with the singing of "God Save the King."

### Newcastle-on-Tyne Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Association was held in the Science Schools, North Shields, on January 22, Mr. Robert Wright (President) in the chair. Newcastle and the adjoining towns and district were well represented.

The Association makes a point of meeting at least once during the session in one or other of the adjoining towns within its area, thus keeping up the interest of those members who cannot attend regular meetings in Newcastle, besides proving a valuable recruiting agency by bringing outside members of the trade into direct touch with the Association.

Mr. BARRY NOBLE read the paper on

#### THE APPRENTICESHIP QUESTION

(printed in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST last week, page 175)—part of the "Federation circular" which was referred to this meeting for discussion.

Mr. GIBSON (North Shields) thought that better facilities for study and recreation should be given to apprentices, also a fair payment. He was inclined to think that the retail drug-trade would ultimately drift into large monopolies on the lines of co-operative establishments. Mr. G. F. MERSON considered that the "First" examination had nothing to do with the dearth of apprentices. It was only adequate in view of the succeeding examinations. The weakness lay in the want of status and recognition after qualification. He was of opinion that the conditions under which business

existed in many districts did not admit of proper training of apprentices. Mr. F. GILDERDALE thought doctors doing their own dispensing was a great drawback. Mr. HEDLEY PATINSON (Whitley Bay) said the chief cause of the dearth of apprentices was the long hours which obtained—as apprentices, as assistants, as principals. This militated against getting the right class of material. Mr. J. D. ROSE (Jarrow) took a very gloomy view of the present state of matters; and Mr. CHAS. RIDLEY and Mr. BUCKLEY (North Shields) said they had never taken apprentices, because, as they stated candidly, they were not prepared to give the proper training which they thought should be given to apprentices. Mr. ELLIS (South Shields) would make the Preliminary or its equivalent a *sine qua non* before indentures were signed. He was optimistic in his general views. Mr. NAPIER, Mr. KERSE, and the PRESIDENT also took part. Mr. NOBLE replied, and votes of thanks terminated the meeting.

### Plymouth Chemists' Association.

At a meeting of this Association on Wednesday evening, January 22, Mr. C. T. Weary (President) in the chair, Mr. Broom (Devonport) was elected a member of the Association, and Mr. Woolley (also of Devonport) a member of the junior section. Mr. F. MAITLAND (Hon. Secretary of the Pharmacy Ball Committee) reported that there was a small balance to be handed to the Association as the result of the ball. Mr. Maitland was heartily thanked for his services, to which the unqualified success of the ball was greatly due. The Association decided unanimously to support Lord Avebury's Bill providing for shorter hours in shops.

The proposal to establish

#### PROVINCIAL SCHOOLS OF PHARMACY

was discussed on the basis of a letter from the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations. The PRESIDENT considered Mr. Paterson's paper an excellent one, and remarked that pharmacy was one of the few callings not considered at all in technical education, although it had a prior claim over almost all others. This was probably partly due to a lack of cohesion among chemists. If they had in that town a good centre of technical education, where students could obtain proper facilities, he believed it would to some extent do away with the great difficulty in obtaining apprentices.

Mr. BARGE was of opinion that they would never obtain just what was required if they were dependent on classes conducted by their local Association. To chemists throughout the country the question was of the greatest possible interest, because the time was no doubt coming when apprentices would have to qualify during their period of apprenticeship; and there seemed no other course than to obtain for apprentices a thorough and practical system of education. Chemists should place the matter before the Government and the Pharmaceutical Society with a request that the grants to technical schools should include the provision of a thorough training in pharmacy in all large towns. In view of the fact that this special training was legally necessary in the interests of the public and for the public safety, all such schools of pharmacy should receive Government support in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Mr. MAITLAND considered that they could not expect the Government to send any grant to them direct. The Technical Education Committees received and dealt with the funds for the respective centres, and they would be the best authorities to work this matter.

Mr. TURNER remarked that the whole matter hinged upon whether money was forthcoming from the Government or other sources in order that an efficient pharmaceutical education might be provided. From efforts in the past it was very evident that it was impossible in Plymouth to work a school to teach pharmacy as it should be done without a special grant.

Mr. PARK pointed out that, when approached by the Association some time ago, the headmaster of Plymouth Technical Schools said the matter was one of money, as the whole sum granted to the centre was allotted, and there was none to spare for special classes for teaching pharmacy. It must be recognised that chemists were now helped to a considerable extent by these schools.

Mr. HUNT, Mr. ROPER, and Mr. COCKS spoke on the local conditions, and the discussion became conversational. In the course of it, Mr. PARK said he could not for a moment see that the Pharmaceutical Society was called upon to do anything for the education of the student. A man who wished to enter a profession ought not to expect a private Society to assist him in this respect. If that is the case, Mr. ROPER asked, how can the Society justify the subsidising of the Square school? Mr. PARK said it was perfectly open for any of their students to go there. Mr. ROPER did not consider that that justified it. Mr. PARK was of opinion that if the Society had the means they would establish a school in every large centre in England. Mr. DAVEY TURNER and Mr. FAIRWEATHER continued the discussion; and Mr. ROPER moved that the Hon. Secretary be requested to write to the Secretary of the Federation, giving a general statement as to the possibilities of pharmaceutical education in the district and mentioning the character of the classes provided at the Technical Schools. The motion was seconded by Mr. PARK, and carried.

Mr. ROPER, referring to other matters in the letter from the Federation, considered it desirable that the

#### MINOR EXAMINATION SHOULD BE DIVIDED,

and purely scientific subjects taken at periods during apprenticeship, so that more time and attention might be devoted to the purely technical subjects. In other professions all the examinations were divided in that way.

Mr. PARK said it was impossible for the Society to divide the Minor examination. That would have to come under a new Act of Parliament. The present Minor examination did not press heavily on students who were industrious during their apprenticeship.

A motion in favour of the existing arrangements was carried by 6 votes to 4.

Referring to the request for suggestions as to the

#### DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING SUITABLE APPRENTICES,

Mr. MAITLAND urged more generous treatment, as well as shorter hours. Mr. DAVEY TURNER considered the increased difficulty of the Preliminary examination one of the factors in the problem. Mr. ROPER agreed with Mr. Allen that if they were honest they could not give parents thinking of apprenticing their sons too favourable an impression. Mr. HUNT pointed out that in businesses in which there were shorter hours and no examination apprentices could not be obtained. Mr. ROPER moved that, in the opinion of the Association, shorter hours and improved educational facilities would tend to remove the difficulty, which was carried.

After the meeting the President and members adjourned to the Swiss Café, where supper was provided.

#### Liverpool Chemists' Association.

THE adjourned annual meeting was held at the Royal Institution, Liverpool, on Thursday evening, January 23, Mr. Harold Wyatt, jun. (President) in the chair.

Mr. W. S. MITCHELL, King Street, Egremont, was elected a member of the Society.

#### PRACTICAL TOPICS.

Mr. J. T. HORNBLLOWER asked if acid sulphate of sodium is frequently used as a remedial agent at the Royal Infirmary. He believed it had recently been prescribed as sodii sulph, and some considerable doubt had existed as to whether the sulphide or the sulphate should be dispensed. An interesting discussion followed, the members being about equally divided in thinking that the sulphide or the sulphate should be dispensed. It was decided to leave the matter in the hands of Mr. P. H. MARDEN to deal with at a subsequent meeting. [As to the use of the acid sulphate see *C. & D.*, February 16, 1901, page 285.]

Mr. T. S. WOKES submitted the following prescription, consisting of—

Boracis	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Sodii bicarb.	...	...	...	...	3ss.
Cocaine [hydrochlor.]	...	...	...	...	gr. ij.
Aque ad	...	...	...	...	3x.

He had dissolved the borax and sodii bicarb. in water and then added the cocaine also dissolved in water. The result

was a precipitate which he had expected. He communicated with the doctor, and suggested that  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of glycerin should be added, and he consented. The result was that the cocaine was all taken up readily. It seemed worthy of note that such a small quantity of glycerin was effective in a case of this kind.

#### NEW COUNCILLORS.

The following gentlemen were elected to the Council T. F. ABRAHAM, J. HOCKEN, H. B. MORGAN, R. STOCKDALE, T. H. SWINTON, C. SYMES, and HAROLD WYATT, jun. The last-named has been re-elected President.

#### ANNUAL REPORTS.

THE TREASURER presented his statement, showing a debit balance of 12*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*, which, although unusually heavy, was considered satisfactory in view of the fact that there had been very exceptional expenses during the year, and that the Council had some assets which had not yet been realised. Messrs. WOKES and WALLBRIDGE were appointed auditors.

Mr. R. C. COWLEY presented the Council's annual report, which gave a *résumé* of the year's work, and which, upon the whole, was of a very satisfactory character. The statement of accounts and report were passed by the meeting unanimously.

Mr. COWLEY then read the following paper on

#### CALCIUM PHOSPHATE: ITS COMPOSITION AND IMPURITIES.

By R. C. Cowley and J. P. Catford.

During our recent (and still pending) work on phosphates we have had reason to question the purity of an article sold as pure calcium phosphate. In the 1885 Pharmacopœia there were explicit directions given for preparing this salt from bone-ash, and also its chemical formula. The 1898 edition omits the formula, and suggests alternative methods for preparing it. The first process is identical with that of the 1885 edition, and yields a product which conforms to the official characters and tests.

The alternative process is "by the interaction of calcium chloride and sodium phosphate." This has been quoted word by word (as the process almost exclusively adopted in preparing the official article) by the Editor and Reporter on the Pharmacopœia, in his "Digest of Researches and Criticisms," a work that would be more useful if brought up to date. Has there been nothing "digestible" since December, 1898? Commentators on the Pharmacopœia, including Messrs. White and Humphrey in "Pharmacopœia," have assumed that the sodium phosphate mentioned is di-sodium-hydrogen-phosphate, and they have concluded that there are two calcium phosphates official—viz., tri-calcic phosphate,  $\text{Ca}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$ , and di-calcic phosphate,  $\text{CaHPO}_4$ ; but commentators have quite overlooked the fact that this di-calcic phosphate does not conform to the B.P. characters and tests, being a crystalline precipitate which, under the microscope, is seen to be composed of thin rhombic plates or prisms. Moreover, a sample of the di-calcic phosphate ( $\text{CaHPO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) dissolved in diluted hydrochloric acid and precipitated as tri-calcic phosphate by solution of ammonia as directed, showed a loss of over 29 per cent., as only two-thirds of the phosphoric acid is precipitated, whilst the loss allowed by the Pharmacopœia is not more than 5 per cent.

An alternative reading of the pharmacopœial monograph, however, suggests itself since the materials referred to as sources of official compounds are frequently not official; for instance, "bone-ash," in the paragraph now under consideration. Hence, by "sodium phosphate," in this connection—tri-sodic phosphate—may have been intended, and then the product would correspond to the official characters and tests.

One of these tests is worthy of remark. We are told that the solution of amorphous phosphate in dilute hydrochloric or nitric acid continues clear when dilute sodium acetate is added in excess, proving the "absence of calcium oxalate." Is this a slip for "alumina"?

It does not appear clear to us how calcium oxalate could occur as an impurity in phosphate unless subsequently added. The production of a precipitate by ammonium oxalate is mentioned among the 1885 tests.

The sample labelled "Pure calcium phosphate" referred to above, when examined by the sodium-acetate test (a normal solution of that and acetic acid was used) gave a precipitate which proved to be calcium sulphate, which was determined by Mr. F. PEACOCK in the laboratory of the Liverpool School of Pharmacy to be present to the extent of 9.5 per cent. This would lead us to the assumption that the preparation was made from calcium phosphate that had been treated with sulphuric acid, forming superphosphate or mono-calcic phosphate,  $\text{CaH}_2(\text{PO}_4)_2$ , and calcium sulphate. On adding solution of ammonia to the solution



of this mixture a precipitate containing di- and tri-calcic phosphates with sulphate would be produced. A microscopic examination of the substance revealed the presence of all three. Traces of iron were also present. Possibly it would also show small quantities of arsenic if specially looked for.

We should like to draw the attention of chemists and pharmacists to the utility of the microscope in examining precipitates. In the case under consideration the presence of calcium sulphate and of di-sodium phosphate are readily detected by this means.

On the motion of Mr. WARDLEWORTH a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the authors, whose researches, it was considered, reflected the greatest possible credit upon the Association.

Mr. HAROLD WYATT, jun., then delivered an inaugural address upon.

#### "SOME PHASES OF MODERN PHARMACY."

In this he dealt with the trade difficulties which have exercised the minds of pharmacists for the last two or three years, and which he said were due to two causes: first, the depression in trade generally, and, second, the large amount of unfair competition with which chemists have to contend—viz., the carrying on of ostensibly chemists' businesses by unqualified individuals, and the dispensing of medical prescriptions by such individuals and by unqualified assistants to doctors. He agreed that legislation is needed badly to remedy this state of affairs, especially to put the dispensing of everything ordered on the prescriptions of qualified medical men into the hands of chemists. He did not approve of asking for the sole monopoly of trade in drugs and the thousand-and-one excrescences to pharmacy, but the claim of specially trained men to have the exercise of their technical knowledge retained for them alone, to the exclusion of those untrained and unqualified men would—he was sure—if properly presented before Parliament meet with support, and effective legislation would follow. He then referred to the Preliminary examination and the dearth of apprentices, saying that the line of legislation should be along the line he had suggested, so as to ensure good, systematic, and continuous education for the youths entering the business. There must be abolition of the apprenticeship-system as hitherto understood, but a youth should, after passing his entrance examination, be made to do three years' service, at least, in a properly conducted pharmacy, after which he might proceed to his qualifying examination through a course of study at a school of pharmacy or in a university. The training in a pharmacy should be insisted on as a preliminary to the final course of study, and any scheme providing one entire scholastic course in a school of pharmacy or a university should be resolutely opposed. Mr. Wyatt elaborated these ideas, and proceeded to speak of the indifference of the medical profession to a knowledge of drugs and prescribing, as a result of which ready-made preparations are too frequently prescribed. Still, he considered that the days when galenicals would be no more used, and when the whole of a doctor's outfit would consist of a few tubes of active principles or animal extracts and serums, are a long way off; in fact, a reaction seems to have already set in, for of late doctors have shown a decided preference for some of the oldest and most reliable of drugs. Consequently it behoves each member composing the family of pharmacy to take interest in his business, to keep his mind open and up to date, and to strive to keep himself abreast with the times. One of the best ways of doing this is to cultivate one or more hobbies as much in character with one's business as possible, not losing sight of the necessity for plenty of outdoor exercise. He then referred to the benefits of local Associations and the Pharmaceutical Society, defending both against aspersions by persons who write letters in the trade papers.

On the motion of Mr. R. C. COWLEY thanks was accorded to the President, and remarks were made by Mr. R. MACALLEY, Mr. MARSDEN, and Mr. WALLBRIDGE, of St. Helens, the last-named saying that his great difficulty as to dispensing is that doctors do their own to such an extent in his town that he is compelled to teach his apprentices dispensing by the means of dummy-prescriptions.

#### Cardiff Chemists' Assistants' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting of this Association was held on January 23, when Mr. A. B. SPARROW (the President) started a

discussion as to the formation of pharmaceutical classes in Cardiff. The idea was suggested by the Pharmaceutical Association, which was fully prepared to render the junior Association every support. Mr. Jones and himself had had an interview with Principal Griffiths, of the University College, who promised to start a class next October if they could guarantee twenty students—or, say, a sum of 250*l*. The College would have to get a special tutor, as the Minor was a very "tricky" examination, and required as teacher someone who had been through it. Arrangements might be made whereby students might either take a full-day course or half-a-day course; the latter would cover nine months, during which time the whole curriculum would be gone through, and the fee would be 15*l*. The scheme, so far as he had been able to learn, was viewed very favourably by chemists in Cardiff, Newport, and Pontypridd. Personally, he thought that Wales ought to be able to support a good pharmacy class. Some discussion followed, in which the opinion was expressed that there ought to be no difficulty in getting considerably more than the number required for a start; and eventually it was decided to call a meeting of the committee to consider the best means of putting the scheme into operation.

#### Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, W., on January 23, Mr. J. W. PECK (President) in the chair, Mr. H. FFOULKES read a paper on

#### SOME SHAKESPEAREAN MATERIA MEDICA.

The author commenced with a delicate reference to the Bacon-Shakespearean controversy, saying that it is more than a passing coincidence that two of the greatest poets who ever lived—Homer and Shakespeare—should have their identity controverted. Even the personality of one of our own writers—Mr. Andrew Lang—has been questioned by a sensational American pressman. He argued that no one man could be so versatile a writer, and suggested that "Andrew Lang" is a syndicate, which publishes the writings of different men under that pseudonym. Turning to the subject proper, Mr. Ffoulkes said that as Shakespeare lived three centuries ago, and as pharmacy at that time was in an empiric state, his works reflect the conditions then existent. He proceeded to give examples, reciting them well. First was the apothecary in "Romeo and Juliet," the description of whom is typical, he remarked, of the average apothecary in Shakespeare's time. English pharmacists are apt to plume themselves upon the Pharmacy Act, with its scheduled poisons, which they regard as quite a modern institution, but at Mantua there was evidently at this early period, according to Shakespeare's imaginative mind, something like a Pharmacy Act, for when Romeo tempts the old apothecary to sell him some deadly poison the apothecary replies:—

Such mortal drugs I have; but Mantuan law  
Is death to any that utters them.

Next Mr. Ffoulkes quoted with effect several pieces illustrative of the witchcraft and animal medicines then abounding as associates of pharmacy, and the conversation between the Queen and Cornelius the physician in "Cymbeline," wherein the doctor fears to hand over "these most poisonous compounds, which are the movers of a languishing death"; and the Queen conjures him:—

Have I not been  
Thy pupil long? Hast thou not learn'd me how  
To make perfumes? distil? preserve? yea, so  
That our great king himself doth woo me oft  
For my confections? Having thus far proceeded  
(Unless thou thinkst me devilish) is't not meet,  
That I did amplify my judgment in  
Other conclusions? I will try the forces  
Of these thy compounds on such creatures as  
We count not worth the hanging (but not human),  
To try the vigour of them, and apply  
Allayments to their act.

Fine scope for the anti-vivisectionist there. It is also interesting to note that we have here a clear case of "substitution," supposed to be a modern vice in pharmacy, for the





### Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

At the meeting held at 94 W Regent Street, Glasgow, on January 28, Mr. J. P. Gilmour (President) in the chair; and Mr. T. MABEN read a paper on

#### THE REIGN OF LAW,

which consisted chiefly of a eulogy of the Pharmaceutical Society as the representatives of pharmacy in this country. The condition of pharmacy was passed under review, and to improve it the author urged shorter hours, the abolition of cutting, discouragement of proprietary preparations, taking a genuine pride in the prescription-department, and cultivating the medical men. He also urged the Society to co-operate with the College of Preceptors, to take up a new examination once in six months. The division of the Minor and kindred topics were touched on.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. MCCUTCHEON, and Mr. MALLISON discussed the paper.

### Nottingham Chemists' Association.

UNDER the auspices of this Association a lecture was given in the Lecture Hall of the Constitutional Club, Nottingham, on Wednesday evening, by Mr. A. E. BEILBY (the Vice-President), on "Ancient Cities of Belgium." Mr. A. Eberlin occupied the chair, and at the conclusion of a very interesting lecture a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Beilby.

### Public and Poor Law Dispensers' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at St. Bride's Institute, E.C. on January 29, Mr. F. Noad Clark in the chair. There were about thirty members present, and the Treasurer (Mr. Hewitt) submitted a statement showing that a balance of £7. 15s. 9d. stands to the good. The officers and council for the ensuing year were then elected as follows:—President, Mr. Duff; Vice-President, Mr. F. Noad Clark; Treasurer, Mr. Hewitt; Secretary, Mr. Samuels; committee, Messrs. Welford, Donnan, Miller, Windmill, Dunstan, and Kingsland. The retiring PRESIDENT (Mr. Clark) delivered a short address, and was followed by his successor in the chair.

### Sheffield Pharmaceutical Society.

AT last week's meeting the members had a merry hour listening to Dr. Waddy's witty remarks on a number of drug and patent-medicine circulars and advertisements, in some of which he detected humour. This week (Wednesday evening, January 29) the members met to discuss the

#### FEDERATION ITEMS.

A letter from Mr. Newsholme was read, in which, while agreeing with Mr. Paterson that systematic training in pharmaceutical subjects within the reach of students during their shop pupillage is worthy of earnest consideration, he was scarcely prepared to say that the triple subsidising of schools by Government, the Pharmaceutical Society, and local associations, is the wisest means of accomplishing the object. At any rate, it appeared to him to be a little premature to consider details in regard to the establishment and maintenance of additional schools of pharmacy in provincial centres just at present, for as yet no evidence of a definite course of training is demanded of candidates for the qualifying examination, and he had had sufficient administrative experience to teach him that to rely upon students imposing upon themselves a voluntary curriculum was trusting to a broken reed. A voluntary curriculum had been officially recommended by the Society for years, and many local Associations had loyally expended time and money in arranging for a systematic course of instruction on those lines, to be furnished to students at a nominal cost, but how few were the cases in which the efforts proved successful. In most instances the student had not shown himself ready to embrace opportunities offered for his benefit. He held that the establishment of schools of

pharmacy in every village would not remedy the evil, of which he saw painful evidence every session on the Board of Examiners. Examination and education should bear a definite relation to each other, and they cannot be advantageously considered apart in a calling like pharmacy. With regard to grants, he preferred self-help to subsidy in pharmaceutical and national affairs. If the pharmacist of the future was to raise himself in the public estimation he must possess a strong individuality.

After discussion by Mr. SQUIRE, Mr. MORRISON, and Mr. ANTCLIFFE, the PRESIDENT (Mr. J. Austin) moved:—

That, while sympathising with the objects of Mr. Paterson's scheme, it is the opinion of this meeting that no general system of pharmaceutical education, whether State-aided or otherwise, will be of any permanent service until such time as a compulsory curriculum be enforced.

Mr. G. ELLINOR also submitted a motion, but the President's one was adopted.

The Society have fixed February 6 for the annual ball at the Royal Victoria Hotel.

### Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

AT a meeting held on Wednesday evening, January 29, Mr. G. S. Woolley in the chair, a paper on "Pharmaceutical Education" was read by Mr. JAMES GRIER, Ph.C., lecturer at Owens College. In it he discussed the Preliminary examination, considering the new standard right, the necessity for continuous study of pharmacy from the beginning of apprenticeship was enjoined, a scheme being outlined; an intermediate examination before the qualifying one was advocated, and the author suggested a written as well as an oral examination. He did not think much of those who pass the Minor, and deplored the apathy of pharmacists to the training given in university colleges. He also claimed for pharmacy a share in the 25,000l. annually given to colleges and universities for dental and medical teaching. Finally, he referred to dispensing in doctors' surgeries, saying that if pharmacists were represented on the General Medical Council the Minor instead of the Apothecaries' Assistants' certificate might be recognised as the only legal qualification for the dispensing of physicians' prescriptions.

The PRESIDENT opened the discussion, deprecating the pessimistic tone of the paper, and holding that, as a class, those who pass the Minor are competent for their duties. Mr. HARRY KEMP dubbed the paper as too theoretical. Professor W. J. POPE said in the technical colleges he was connected with in London they always looked upon the pharmacy students as unsatisfactory, as their idea seemed only to be to get through a certain examination. They did not regard their training in chemistry as education, and were crammed in that and other subjects. Professor WEISS, in the course of a lengthy speech, said there was probably some room for improvement in the examinations. He was followed by Mr. REDCLIFFE; and Mr. JOHN TAYLOR (Bolton), in speaking about a compulsory curriculum, referred to the difficulties in the way of getting one—even if it were desirable. Professor R. B. WILD said there is a tendency at present for the pharmacist to become merely a middleman for selling American goods in the original wrappers. He agreed with Mr. Grier's suggestions as to examinations. Mr. YOUNG also spoke, and Mr. GRIER replied.

### Cardiff Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, on Wednesday, January 29. Mr. A. Hagon presided, and was supported by Mr. R. Drane, the newly-elected President, and a large number of members, in addition to chemists from various towns in South Wales and Monmouthshire, were present. The CHAIRMAN, having briefly addressed the meeting, introduced the new PRESIDENT, who delivered a characteristic address, in the course of which he recommended the flotation of specialities by chemists in order to counteract popular proprietaries. This topic was the basis of a good discussion in which Messrs. J. MUNDAY, LLOYD (Merthyr), HICKS, EVAN JONES (Llanelli), JESSE WILLIAMS, COLEMAN, and BARRINGTON SPARROW took part. The PRESIDENT replied and was thanked for his address.

## Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," January 29, 1902.)

"AURONAL" (no claim for "Aurone"); for chemicals. By the Chemische Fabriken vorm. Weiler-ter Meer, Uerdingen-on-the-Rhine, Prussia. 240,449.

"GALVANITE" and "DRIOROL"; for chemicals. By Griffiths Brothers & Co., 29 Mack's Road, Bermondsey, S.E. 243,062 and 243,080.

"PURITAN" (in written characters); for goods in Class 2. By F. J. Griffin, 96 Gainsborough Road, Wavertree, Liverpool. 240,739.

"ANTSAPTIC"; for a white ant and insect destroyer, also a disinfectant and antiseptic (in Class 2). By T. A. Mackenzie & Co., 16 Billiter Buildings, Billiter Street, E.C. 242,655.

"FIXATINE"; for goods in Class 2. By G. F. W. Hope, 18 Ironmonger Lane, E.C. 243,014.

"THAPSINE"; for an internal medicine. By A. J. Barnes, 1 Charlemont Street, Dublin. 241,701.

The word "KIMMOL," device for label with a goat in the top right-hand corner, and facsimile signature of the proprietor (the essential particulars); for a medicine. By David King Morgan, 25 King Street, Carmarthen. 242,949.

"REMOIDS"; for chemicals. By Bishop & Vincent, 460 Holloway Road, N. 242,277.

"PURITAN" (in printed characters); for chemicals in Class 3. By C. Thomas & Brothers (Limited), Broad Plain Soap-works, Bristol. 243,013.

"GLYCOLD" (no claim for "Glyco"); for chemicals. By Allen & Hanburys (Limited), Plough Court, E.C. 243,122.

Combination of devices (the essential particular); for ink. By H. C. Stephens, 57 Aldersgate Street, E.C. 241,444.

"MONITOR"; for goods in Class 42. By Stiles (Limited), 72-74 Gray's Inn Road, E.C. 242,803.

"SODOX"; for an aerated water mixed with nutritious matter. By E. H. Josephi, 20 Bucklersbury, E.C. 242,677.

Device (the essential particular) of a black cat which has fallen into a tub of "Laundry Bleach," and has been partly bleached white; for bleaching-liquors for laundry use. By the United Alkali Company (Limited), 30 James Street, Liverpool. 240,568.

"AUTO-LUBRINE" and "MOTO-LUBRINE" (no claim for "Auto" or "Moto"); for lubricating-oils. By the East Lancashire Chemical Company, Fairfield Chemical-works, Edge Lane, Droylsden. 242,107 and 242,108.

"CONRADINE"; for goods in Class 48. By E. C. Conrad, Walton Villa, Wrotham Road, Gravesend. 242,424.

"INO"; for perfumery and toilet articles. By Gerard Brothers (Limited), New Basford, Nottingham. 242,489.

"LASIN"; for an application to prevent spectacles or the like glasses becoming obscured by moisture. By F. Fuchs, 8 Breite Gasse, Vienna. 242,572.

"MIRRORRENE" (the essential particular, no claim being made for "Mirror"); for a polish. By J. Wilson, 66 Charlotte Lane, City, Glasgow. 241,676.

"SOZMAR"; for polishes in Class 50. By R. James & Co., Edward Street, West Bromwich. 242,118.

"HOVO"; for metal and other polishes. By Robinson & Moore, 64 Savernake Road, Hampstead, N.W. 242,587.

ACETATES of soda and lime can now be imported into Holland free of import duty when they are for use in the preparation of vinegar or acetone.

NO HOMEOPATHY IN JAPAN.—U.S.A. Minister Buck, of Tokyo, under date of December 12, 1901, states that on July 20, 1899, the Central Sanitary Council resolved not to permit the practice of homeopathy in Japan.

## Things that Happen—Sometimes.



BOY: "Please, sir, I've called for my Christmas-box."

CHEMIST: "Why, you have never done anything for me."

BOY: "Yars, I once borrowed your 'and-cart.'"

## Personalities.

MR. T. H. W. IDRIS is the subject of an appreciative sketch in *Fortunes Made in Business*.

MR. A. PAIN, pharmaceutical chemist, has been appointed a Vice-President of the Ipswich Early Closing Association.

MR. F. NOAD CLARK, chemist and druggist, has been elected President of the South London Entomological Society.

MR. J. A. WATERING has retired from Messrs. D. M. & C. Watering, cinchona brokers, Amsterdam, and Mr. J. Vorstelman has been admitted a partner. The style of the firm remains unchanged.

THE Progress medal of the Royal Photographic Society has been awarded to Dr. Joseph Wilson Swan. Dr. Swan was early in the field of photographic discovery, and his carbon process, patented in 1834, was the first practicable one for commercial purposes.

MR. W. S. THOMPSON, founder and principal of the Crown Perfumery Company, was staying in the Murray Hill Hotel, New York, which was so seriously affected by the dynamite explosion on Monday. Mr. Thompson has cabled that he is unhurt. He is 79 years old, and vigorous for his age.

ALDERMAN J. J. SHAWYER, chemist and druggist, Wood Street, and Fordingdon Street, Swindon, has been appointed Chairman of the Swindon Technical Education Committee. Alderman Sawyer has always taken a great interest in education, and this appointment is a flattering testimony and recognition of his services to the cause.

Young Fissick's got a sign-board out  
Proclaiming him M.D.;  
But from A.M. to late P.M.  
His office is M.T.

DOCTOR'S SPECIALITIES "will find a ready market on the Ivory Coast," writes a correspondent of the *Gold Coast Globe*.

### VACCINATION

He thought he saw the host which stayed  
The Saracen alarm.  
He looked again and saw a crowd  
With neatly ribboned arm.  
"Some more red tape," he said, "but this  
Is quite devoid of harm." —*The Outlook*.



## Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

### The Apprenticeship Experiences

given in the Winter number were extremely interesting. I was going to add "useful," but I am not sure whether this term could be justified. The condition of things referred to in the narratives is pretty well gone; and I think I am glad it has. Consequently there is very little to learn from its records, unless it be the lesson that young fellows of sound sense and stamina cannot be easily suppressed. Mr. Newsholme's apprenticeship, for example, hardly seemed planned to create a future President; but it was just as good as any other. He would have probably got to the Presidency all the same if he had been apprenticed anywhere else. On the other hand, the youth from Beverley referred to by Mr. Druce, who, "if he possessed any talent, business or otherwise, had most successfully concealed it," is no doubt convinced, if he is still in the business, perhaps as a *locum tenens* somewhere, that his career was ruined at the outset by an incompetent master. The reflection suggested by a human document of that character is that the repressing influence of the master is of very little consequence compared with that of the beverage which that young man's system "seemed periodically to require."

### Ideal Apprenticeships,

it is hinted, were those with employers who were also preceptors, who taught their pupils on a system; and this style of thing, it is further suggested, is now "out of print." With sincere respect for the good men who felt that they had undertaken a duty and must conscientiously fulfil it, I take the liberty of saying that I do not believe the method thus sketched has been sufficiently justified by results to make us keenly regret its disappearance. Without any formal "system" of instruction, he must be a poor-brained youth who cannot learn all his master knows about the business after daily intercourse with him for three, four, or five years; and I fancy the really sharp lad picks up more useful information by a careful study of his employer's deficiencies than from a contemplation of his virtues. He unconsciously makes mental notes of how much better he could do this and that; and when the proper time arrives he makes practical use of those notes. A youth can be nursed or mollycoddled in the way which leads to his examination; but it is by using his own wits that he trains into a successful business-man.

### Apprenticeship to the Wholesale

drug-trade is alluded to by Mr. Lescher. This is interesting. An apprenticeship in a modern wholesale drug-house is far more my ideal of even a retail chemist's training than that which has been so much glorified; and if it should lead to a seat, however humble, at the table of the Drug Club, that would mean fame and fortune enough to satisfy most people's ambition. Mr. Lescher disappointingly adds: "Nowadays there are but few apprentices in the wholesale drug-trade." It is news to me that there are any, and I should strongly advise chemists with sons whom they wish to fit for their own trade to find out about these. The acquaintance with drugs and their treatment on a large scale, with laboratory-work, and with the office-work incidental to a wholesale business, would be well worth paying for. Cannot some of the big houses offer terms on which young chemists might have, say, six or twelve months in their warehouses partly as learners and partly as workers? It would be an invaluable

experience to them, and they would probably be lifelong customers to the firm by whom they had been so taken. Perhaps there is a danger that they might learn too much.

### The Winter Volume

presents such a mass and such a variety of instruction and entertainment as to defy anything like fairly balanced comment. Among the many useful supplements, Meggeson's and the Vinolia price-lists would seem to have reached the climax of artistic advertising; but I suppose the laurel must be awarded to an American firm—Messrs. Bauer & Black, of Chicago. I have never seen photographs of interiors so wonderfully produced as they are in this pamphlet. In the literary section I note (page 103) that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is to receive a deputation from mineral-water makers to hear what they have to say against a higher tax on sugar. That looks ominous. Glasgow doctors "of a disputatious turn" (page 105) are, no doubt, unreasonable in alleging that the Pharmaceutical Society looks after them more closely than it does its own subscribing members. It would not justify doctors in employing unqualified persons to sell poisons to prove that M.P.S.'s do the same. But the charge affects the honour of the Society. Is there any truth in it? Mr. Frost (page 109) does not exactly appreciate the objection to bee-keeping by London chemists. The bees will find the flowers, no doubt, but those of us who work in our little gardens do not want to be grasping one of our neighbouring chemist's bees when we are tending our roses. The "family pill" patented by Elizabeth Birch, trained nurse, and Eustace Fordyce Birch, chemist's apprentice (page 119), may become famous, but patenting it will not help the sale nor protect it from the competition of other family pills. Why have they wasted their money? I observe with pleasure (page 122) that Mr. John Morgan Richards is beginning to protect profits. He will be a glorious catch for the P.A.T.A. when he comes in with all his agencies. Mr. Reynolds's first sketch (on page 141) is a gem of humour. Miss Barr's article on the Minor examination (page 143) is much superior to the general run of such essays, in that it gives the outline of the patient work that led up to qualification, and is not simply a description of the final brilliant victory. I am afraid most of us try to find a shorter cut to registration than Miss Barr indicates. The several articles of pharmaceutical interest from India, the Continent, and the Transvaal almost compel the commentator to linger but space will not permit. The Bradford amulets commented on by Mr. Bell (page 153) are an interesting find, but I can hardly bring myself to believe in them as genuine charms notwithstanding the word "tetragrammaton."\* The language used in those old charms was generally composed of ordinary words with a mystical religious look about them, even if much sense could not be made out of the whole. Are they not merely cuttings from a sort of parchment copy-book, by means of which some young scrivener was trying to acquire a clerical hand? Mr. Ebbelwhite's learned analysis of the Royal arms (page 161) is instructive, but it is difficult for those of us not in the "arms" line to treat heraldry quite seriously. Lord Westbury was once trying a case in which a witness from the Herald's College gave evidence. The witness, perhaps nervously, confounded a "bar" with a "bend." "Why, you silly old man," said the sharp-tongued Judge, "you don't know your own silly old business." I am not sure that the practice of giving to selected tradesmen the right to use the Royal arms, and to describe themselves as specially appointed, without charging them for the privilege, is quite fair to tax-paying competitors.

\* Another early English text authority, judging from the engraving, assures us that the scrip is not anterior to 1820.—Ed. C. & D



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## Editorial Comments.

### Opodeldoc.

FOR some weeks an interesting discussion has been going on in our columns as to the origin of opodeldoc. The discussion was brought about by a question as to whether opium-liniment may properly be sold as opodeldoc, that being the custom in some parts of the country. This has proved to be far less interesting than the ancient history of the article. There is not much doubt that Paracelsus (1493-1541) invented the word opodeldoc as a general term for various plasters. Mr. C. C. Bell and "Xrayser" have given formulæ from Paracelsus' "Chirurgica Minor" which show that opodeldoc-plaster bears no relation to the saponaceous compound known under the name of opodeldoc at the present time. Some lexicographers attribute the invention of opodeldoc-plaster to Mindererus (1570-1621), but this is an error. Mindererus distinctly states in his "Medicina Militaris" that the opodeldoc of Paracelsus is a good plaster for wounds, but that his own preparation contains additional ingredients which make the plaster red and hard, "like Spanish sealing-wax." As to the meaning of the word opodeldoc there is much difference of opinion. Duglison says it is "an unmeaning term frequently used by Paracelsus." Webster-Mahn explain it as "so called by Paracelsus, who liked to coin arbitrary and unmeaning words. The first syllable is perhaps the Greek *δρός*, vegetable-juice." Blancard says: "'Tis a fictitious name, having no real signification." The late Mr. John Borland, suggests (*Pharm. Journal*, 1871) as the roots of the word opodeldoc, *δρός*, juice, and *θέλω*, I soothe or charm. By syncope the *s* the word becomes *δοπέλω*, and employing the adjective form we have *δοπελκτικός*, meaning the soothing juice or balsam. By the mutation of the rough lingual *θ* into the softer medial *δ* the word would become (using Roman letters) *opodelgo*, and conventionality or euphemism might lead to *opodeldo* or *opodeldoc*.

How did the name come to be applied to a saponaceous compound? All the formulæ given in Paracelsus and Mindererus are innocent of soap. The following seems to be the evolution



of the present-day soap-liniment. [Powell (Translation of the 1809 London Pharmacopœia), under *Lin. Saponis Compositum*, has a note that "the basis of this form was first proposed by Riverius, and is now commonly used under the name of opodeldoc." The only reference we can find in Riverius' (1589-1685) "*Praxis Medica*" is under the heading of "Hip Gout or Sciatica" (Bk. 16, c. 2)—viz., "Spanish soap or Castile soap dissolved in spirit of wine is most excellent smeared on by the fireside." The next clue is given by Bate (1608-1669) in the "*Pharmacopœia Bateana*," where, under the title of "*Balsamum Anodynum*," is given the following:—

Sapon. castil.	...	...	...	3j.
Opii	...	...	...	3ss.
Camphor.	...	...	...	3vj.
Croci	...	...	...	5j.
Pyreani	...	...	...	5xviii.

This formula is given intact in the first Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, 1722, but there is also given a formula under the title of "Unguentum Opodeldoch," a translation of which was quoted by Mr. Eustace last week. In the 1744 P.E. Bate's anodyne balsam is made by adding tr. opii to "*Balsamum saponaceum vulgo opodeltoch*," prepared from—

Spt. vini rect.	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Sapo. hispan.	...	...	...	1 lb.
Camphor.	...	...	...	2 oz.
Ol. rosmarini	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Ol. origani	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.

Balsamum is the new name applied in 1744 to the old unguentum, probably because its consistence was too soft for the generally accepted idea of an ointment. James ("Universal Dispensary," 1752) says he does "not know why the oil of origanum is here added," but that was no doubt because it was judged that thyme and rosemary were the preponderating flavours of the old ung. opodeldoch of the P.E. 1722. Quincey, it may also be noted, mentions that Bate's anodyne balsam is much like a prescription of Horstius, whom we take to be Gregory Horstius (1578-1636), known as the "German Æsculapius." The Edinburgh balsamum saponaceum first appeared in the London Pharmacopœia of 1745 as "*Linimentum Saponaceum*," with the following simplified formula:—

Spiritus rosmarini	...	...	...	libram unam
Saponis duri hispanici	...	...	...	uncias tres
Camphoræ	...	...	...	unciam unam

Digere saponem in spiritu rosmarini dum solutus sit; deinde adde camphoram.

It appears from "*Pharmacopœia Reformata*," a criticism of the Pharmacopœia published in 1744, that a preparation similar to the above was proposed, but with the addition of ammonium carbonate, a note explaining that "medicines of this kind have been pretty much in esteem of late, but are generally more impregnated with the essential oils of vegetables which undoubtedly promote the medicinal efficacy of the composition." This refers no doubt to Steer's opodeldoc, which was then a popular proprietary article. Dorvault ("*L'Officine*") says the formulæ for baume opodeldoch originated from an English proprietary medicine (he says "patented," but Steer's preparation was never the subject of letters patent). It now becomes fairly clear that the first soap-liniment was an imitation of Steer's opodeldoc, and judging by the quantity of soap it was a semi-solid preparation; it is not, however, quite so clear whether Steer's was an original preparation or an improvement on the Edinburgh formula. The fact that Steer's contains ammonia would seem to point to the latter conclusion. So far we have not been able to find any reason for the adoption of the word opodeldoch other than the fact that Paracelsus' plaster was obsolete, and the name a good one for an external preparation. *Lin. saponaceum* became *lin. saponis* in the P.L.

1788, *lin. saponis co.* in the P.L. 1788 (ed. alt.), and remained with that title until 1836, when the present *lin. saponis* was adopted. The 1788 P.L. ordered 3 oz. of soap and 1 oz. of camphor in 16 oz. of spirit of rosemary made with proof spirit; in 1809 the spirit of rosemary was made with rectified spirit, but as there was difficulty in dissolving the soap distilled water was added in the proportion of 2 oz. to 18 oz. of spirit of rosemary. The water was increased to 4 oz. in 1885, and the camphor diminished to 2 oz., but previously a mixture of oil of rosemary, and spirit had replaced the spirit of rosemary. In the present Pharmacopœia soft soap takes the place of hard soap. The "dark-coloured" opodeldoc which our original correspondent refers to as asked for in Scotland may be a survival of the days when tr. opii was added to balsam of soap to make it into Bate's anodyne balsam, but it is well to recall what was pointed out by Deane in 1859—viz., that the colour of soap-liniment formerly varied according to the kind of Castile soap used in its preparation. It is also said to have been the custom to heighten the colour of the liniment with saccharum ustum. It is quite probable, however, that the Board of Trade's requirement for shipping medicine-chests may have influenced the local custom of giving lin. opii. In regard to the substitution of soft soap for hard soap in the present Pharmacopœia, it is probably due to the suggestion of Mr. J. T. Hornblower (*C. & D.*, April 28, 1894, page 571), although as long ago as 1818 Gray gave formulæ in which soft soap was employed, and it is still common in the trade to use that soap as a more emollient opodeldoc is produced.

## The Poisons Committee.

THE sample of Westminster wisdom on the poisons question which our Parliamentary correspondent contributes this week (page 215) is a striking corroboration of what we have repeatedly said respecting the temper of administrators on this matter, and the need for the chemists and druggists in Great Britain giving it their closest attention. We have ample evidence that the trade is almost lethargic about it so far. We do not fear that when the time for fighting comes plenty of energy will be displayed, but we should like to see more evidence now that chemists and druggists as a body realise that the principle of the Act which made them a statutory body is being insidiously undermined. Perhaps the "statement" communicated by our Parliamentary representative may help them to realise the position. We print it as received, with all the bias and travesty of the truth apparent to those who know the facts regarding the Wheeldon case better than the authority from whom the statement emanates. The judgment by Mr. Justice Hawkins, which decided that the person who hands over the poison must either be qualified or be under the immediate supervision of a qualified person, has been far more keenly felt by pharmaceutical owners of drug-shops than by the medical men of Glasgow and the West of Scotland. We have repeatedly shown since the decision that the demand for qualified assistants by pharmaceutical owners has enormously increased, twice as many now qualifying, in spite of the fact that the examinations have become more stringent. There is no distinction in the Pharmacy Act between the medical man and the pharmacist so far as keeping open shop is concerned; both must give personal supervision or provide qualified assistants. The nature of their occupation prevents medical men from giving the close attention to open shops which their pharmaceutical *confrères* can give, and as medical men who own open shops have them chiefly for the purpose of keeping the pot boiling until their more legitimate practice is sufficiently re-

munerative, they have usually put their shops in charge of the cheapest assistants. Consequently, law-breaking has been more common in such shops, and it is that fact which the General Medical Council has recognised and acted upon with deliberation. There is no love lost between that Council and the Pharmaceutical Society. The General Medical Council would not have moved in the matter had it not been convinced that the law-breaking was endangering the status of the medical profession. We are pleased to notice that the Poisons Committee will have an opportunity of getting at the real facts of this matter, which appears to be used to prejudice the members of the Committee against the legitimate retailers of poisons. Amongst the witnesses who are now to be called are Mr. Richard Bremridge, Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society, and Registrar under the Pharmacy Act, and the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Rutherford Hill, of Edinburgh. Both are well qualified by experience and knowledge of the Pharmacy Act to give the Committee a correct idea of the impartiality with which it has been administered, and they will be able especially to tell the Committee how far the public safety has been endangered by the insidious manner in which those who merely regard the sale of poisons as a source of gain have circumvented the objects of the Legislature.

### The Dilke Shops Bill.

THE Bill which Sir Charles Dilke has introduced to amend the law relating to shops is not exactly on the same lines as Lord Avebury's Bill which, in the Session of 1900, was rejected in the House of Lords, and has again been introduced this week. That Bill proposes, among other things, that two-thirds of the shopkeepers in any locality should be authorised to memorialise the local authority, and that the local authority should then be empowered to close the shops at an hour not earlier than 7 o'clock in the evening. There is no mention of memorialising in Sir Charles Dilke's proposals. It is simply provided that the local authority "shall fix the closing-hours for each day in the week in accordance with this Act as far as concerns the shops within their area," and that they "shall publish their determination in such manner as they think fit, and a certificate purporting to be signed by the Clerk of the local authority shall be evidence of the closing-hour fixed for any day." This gets rid of the objection urged by Lord Salisbury in 1900, that under Lord Avebury's scheme two-thirds of the shopkeepers in a district could coerce the other third, and, moreover, it is in accordance with the recommendation of the Select Committee of last Session, "that town councils should be authorised to pass provisional orders making such regulations in respect to the closing of shops as may seem to them to be necessary for the areas under their jurisdiction." The whole of the first part deals with this question of closing, but there is an exemption clause which provides that the proposals in this connection shall not apply to shops kept open for the sale solely of certain scheduled articles, including "medicines or medical or surgical appliances." Consequently the first part only has general interest for the majority of our readers. The second part is devoted to miscellaneous clauses, and for their clear interpretation it may be explained that for the purpose of the Bill the expression "shop" includes retail and wholesale shops, markets, and stalls, and "young person" means any person under the age of eighteen. It will not be legal, should the Bill pass, to allow a child under the age of fourteen to be employed in or about a shop. Further, a person must not be employed continuously for more than five hours without an interval of at least half an hour for a meal, and

he must be allowed at least an hour between noon and 2 o'clock for dinner, and not less than half an hour between 4 and 7 for tea. Then follows a clause over the principle of which a long discussion took place on the occasion of the last amendment of the Factory Acts. It provides that—

A young person or woman who is employed on any day in a factory or workshop shall not subsequently on the same day be employed in or about a shop for such a period as will make the total period of his or her employment in the factory or workshop, and in the shop, exceed the number of hours permitted by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, for his or her employment in the factory or workshop.

This will, undoubtedly, again prove to be a bone of contention. The remaining provisions may be dismissed in a line. They provide for efficient sanitary arrangements and ventilation, for annual returns of all persons employed, the enforcement of the Act by factory inspectors and police officials, and legal proceedings. One clause near the end is worth separate notice—viz., that "any person found in a shop, other than a customer, shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed for the purposes of this Act to have been then employed in the shop." Sir Charles Dilke has the support of representatives of the three Kingdoms. His backers number Mr. John Burns, Mr. Flower, Mr. Lloyd-George, Colonel Hughes, Mr. Kemp, Mr. McCrae, Mr. Melville, Mr. Nannetti, Sir Barrington Simeon, and Mr. Tennant. In view of the announced disinclination of the Government to take up the subject, the progress of the Bill will be watched with much interest, as will also that of Lord Avebury, although the leader of his House is not at all sympathetic to him.

### THE WEEK'S LAW.

Our space this week does not permit extended comment upon the legal cases which we report, but we may at least emphasise their importance, especially the support given to the *Dickens v. Randerson* decision, which sustains the authority of the British Pharmacopœia in regard to medicines mentioned therein, so far as the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are concerned. The Pharmaceutical Society's renewed procedure under Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act against Mr. Woolmer White, of Portsmouth, for not putting on a poison-label the exact address where the poison was sold, is rather hard upon him, as he appears since he was first fined to have done all that it was possible to conform with the law. The real significance of the case is, however, that the Pharmaceutical Council is ignoring the West London Magistrate's decision in regard to the name, and taking action only in respect to the address. It seems strange that the Council has not taken an earlier opportunity and simpler way of making the fact known.

### THE DISCOVERY OF THE FUTURE.

When Mr. H. G. Wells, the novelist, is serious, as he was understood to be at the Royal Institution last Friday evening, it is the greatest difficulty to realise that he is so. From 9 o'clock, when he walked into the lecture-theatre accompanied by Lord Rayleigh and Professor Dewar, to 9.30 he spoke of the past, and up to 9.45 of past and present, with a dash of prophetic speculation, but the future that he spoke of in the other ten minutes was hazy and wild. There was nothing in the lecture which cannot be gleaned from "Anticipations," and the first half-dozen sentences contained all that men of science need care about. Mr. Wells said in effect that the human mind has always been prone to dwell upon what has happened or is happening, and the cultivation of what may happen is still an undeveloped faculty on that account. We think this puts the matter fairly, but the lecture was so devoid of examples of futurity or any suggestion of a formula which might start speculation



in prophetic science, that it is possible in saying this we credit Mr. Wells with more than he expressed. Nevertheless, the idea is that if scientific men would try to think where ascertained facts will lead them instead of studying their relations with the past, and collating nice records of progress, they would get a much better insight into the future than we have got hitherto. The prediction of the discovery of new elements was instanced as proof of what can be done along these lines. Sir William Crookes was at the meeting, but it is so many years since we heard a similar doctrine to this from his lips, both privately and publicly, that some disappointment at Mr. Wells's feebler efforts was, perhaps, inevitable. Now that the Royal Institution has paid this young gentleman the supreme compliment of asking him to lecture to the most dilettante audience of modern times, on the subject which he handles entrancingly in fiction, we may turn to astronomers, chemists, and physicists for more light on the subject, and ask Mr. Wells to give us more of his fiction.

#### A NEW EXPLOSIVE.

The Explosives Committee, British War Office, which consists of Lord Rayleigh, Sir Andrew Noble, Sir William Crookes, Sir W. Roberts-Austen and Mr. R. B. Haldane, besides members representing the War Office and the Admiralty, have now made effective trials with the new smokeless powder to be known as "Cordite M.D." The original cordite, patented in 1889 by Sir Frederick Abel and Professor Dewar, consists of 58 per cent. of nitroglycerin, 37 per cent. of tri-nitro-cellulose (with a small proportion of soluble gun-cotton), and 5 per cent. of vaseline. Cordite M.D. is not patented, but nitrocellulose is the base, and it contains a percentage of nitroglycerin not nearly so high as that in cordite. The advantage of the new powder is that it is not so erosive as cordite, and in other respects it is far superior.

#### POTASSIUM OR POTASH?

In the current issue of the *Polyclinic*, Dr. C. O. Hawthorne discusses the question as to whether the word "potassium" or "potash" should be used in speaking of the compound KI. It appears that in the severe atmosphere of the *Polyclinic* "iodide of potash" has been heard, and a critic comments adversely on the use of the term. Dr. Hawthorne thereupon writes a little homily on the subject, which concludes with this little paragraph:—

Our critic is therefore perfectly right in finding fault with the phrase iodide of potash, for which no defence can possibly be attempted. Indeed, as now appears, his commendable anxiety for accuracy in chemical phraseology might have justified the adoption of a wider censure, though not perhaps on equally sure grounds. To speak of iodide of potash is, we admit, to sin against both reason and history. Carbonate of potash and its congeners are less grave offences, but they cannot advance a plea of justification according to modern theories. They can claim the sanction of a former custom, but their present employment indicates some failure to appreciate one aspect of the fuller chemical doctrine of our later day.

After all, there is no finality in matters of this kind. The names that we use are simply convenient labels to tack on to chemicals, and are not necessarily descriptive of the condition in which the constituent elements are combined.

#### GOVERNMENT LYMPH.

The reply of Mr. Long to a question in the House of Commons last week concerning the supply of Government calf-lymph has aroused the "official" medical practitioner. Mr. Long said there was no necessity to supply "Government" lymph to private practitioners, as there was an ample supply outside that issued by the Local Government Board. Dr. T. D. Acland writes to the *Times* in alarm at this reply, saying surely Mr. Long cannot be "aware of the widespread demand which exists for the lymph prepared by the national

vaccine establishment." The worthy doctor hears the desire expressed "on all sides" that the Government laboratories should be so extended and equipped as to enable them to supply glycerinated lymph to any qualified practitioner who may wish to use it. It is felt, he says, that as a matter of such national importance, not only should the laboratories be extended but that steps should be taken to test and regulate the sale of all imported lymph and to inspect the manufacture of all that is prepared in this country. The maintenance of an enlarged Government laboratory would, he thinks, be a wise economy for the nation, where an adequate supply of lymph of the highest standard of efficiency and purity could be obtained, "rather than, as at present, to compel all private practitioners to depend for their supply on that which is made abroad, or prepared by private firms in England without any official regulation, inspection, or guarantee." This appears to imply that the "private firms" making vaccine-lymph are not to be trusted; but we should imagine that the commercial reputation of those adventurous "private firms" who dare to produce a lymph in opposition to the Government, would be worth considerably more to the private practitioner and the man in the street than any amount of "official guarantees."

### Note on Creosote-pills.

PILL-MANUFACTURERS are not unfrequently asked for creosote-pills each to contain 1, 2, or 3 minims of the substance. To prepare the latter of a suitable size is more than difficult—in fact, it is impossible if the size is limited to that of an ordinary 5-gr. pill. For many years the difficulty has continually presented itself, and it is not always easy to persuade customers (who, by the way, sell "castor-oil pills" weighing about 5 gr. each) that 1 minim is the most that can be got into a presentable pill when working with large quantities. I have known dispensers who could send out a fairly-presentable pill containing 2 minims, but when these have to be prepared in quantity and by machinery another state of affairs exists.

Without going into unnecessary details of experiments with various excipients tried, I can recommend the following formula containing 1 part of creosote in 4 parts of mass. It produces a firm mass for the piping-press and cuts well; in a very short time it sets sufficiently to allow of coating if that process is carefully carried out. The pills so made remain pliable and do not go right hard upon keeping, and they soften readily with warmth from the fingers:—

#### CREOSOTE-MASS 1 IN 4.

Creosote	...	...	...	...	4 parts
Powdered animal soap	...	...	...	...	2 parts

Mix thoroughly in a warm mortar and add—

Yellow beeswax (previously melted) 4 parts

Mix thoroughly and incorporate in the mixing-machine with—

Powdered liquorice...	...	...	...	1 part
Powdered althaea	...	...	...	1 part
Calcium phosphate...	...	...	...	2 parts
Kaolin	...	...	...	2 parts

The mixing should be done lightly and not carried on for longer than necessary to make a uniform mass.

My experiments show that one cannot make pills of all strengths, the only strength suitable being 1 minim; the other two strengths would need to be represented by a large pill, especially when coated, and would not be favoured by those having to take them. Moreover such a pill would be larger and less convenient to take than a capsule or perle containing the same amount of creosote. The exhibition of the latter ensures that the proper dose is given, and their use should be encouraged.

JOHN J. BRYANT.

HINE'S DRUG STORES, dispensing chemists, of Holloway and Aldgate, have acquired the business of Messrs. Belton & Co., of 61 High Road, Lee, S.E.

## Legal Reports.

### Pharmacy Act, 1868.

#### LABELLING UNDER SECTION 17.

AT the Portsmouth Police Court on January 23, before Colonel Lanyon Owen (Chairman), Mr. J. J. Young, and Mr. C. E. Matthews, Woolmer R. D. White, J.P., chemist and druggist, of the Timothy White Company, was summoned at the instance of the Pharmaceutical Society for selling at one of his shops oxalic acid without a distinguishing label.

Mr. Burley appeared for the Society, and Mr. Brutton for the defendant.

Mr. Burley stated that on November 25 a clerk in the employ of the Pharmaceutical Society purchased at defendant's shop in Stamshaw Avenue, Portsmouth, a pennyworth of oxalic acid, which was given to him in a blue wrapper upon which was placed a label bearing these words, "Oxalic acid," and then above and below that, "Timothy White Company, chemists by examination. Pharmacies throughout the South of England. Prescriptions dispensed by qualified chemists at half the usual charges." There was no address on the label, simply "Pharmacies throughout the South of England." Serious consequences might ensue through lack of an address, and it would be impossible to tell at which of the defendant's numerous branch shops this particular poison was bought. Mr. Woolmer White was himself a member of the Pharmaceutical Society, and therefore clearly knew what was the law in relation to the matter. He mentioned also that though they were not charging this as a second offence, Mr. White had been previously convicted under this section.

George Pidsley proved the purchase, and in reply to Mr. Brutton said that when he paid for his purchase he received a receipt for 1d.

Colonel Owen: Did you see the name and address of the firm on that receipt?—No, I did not.

Colonel Owen: Well, here it is.

Mr. Matthews pointed out that the form of receipt bore no fewer than twenty-eight addresses, including the address of this very shop at which the poison had been obtained.

Harry Moon, clerk to the Pharmaceutical Society, said that he was specially instructed to get a purchase made at Timothy White's. There was nothing wrong with the label in question, except that the name of the shop where the purchase was effected was not given.

The Bench drew attention to the fact that Timothy White's was as well known as the Town Hall itself.

For the defence Mr. Brutton observed that the objection of the Society was that the label did not specifically denote the branch-shop at which the purchase was made. He submitted that this was not necessary under the Act, and that the prosecution was somewhat vindictive. The real grievance of the Society was that on the labels were the words "Prescriptions dispensed by qualified chemists at half the usual prices." Mr. White was a very liberal subscriber to the funds of the Society. He had after the last case instructed the managers of his several shops to withdraw that form of label and substitute for it a new label on which was printed the address of the branch at which it was used. They were told on the issue of this new label to destroy all the old ones, but apparently they had not all done so in this instance. He contended that, having done this, his client could not be held criminally responsible for the act of a servant who had acted in direct opposition to his express instructions.

This point was argued at great length, but the Clerk (Mr. Harry Fisk) advised the Bench that under Section 17 the employer's responsibility was maintained.

Evidence was then called for defendant as to new labels having been distributed. The witnesses were Alfred Henry Holt, general manager of the warehouse; Henry William Carrier, manager of the Stamshaw branch (who stated that on the receipt was the stamp of the firm, "Timothy White Co., Stamshaw branch"); George Albert Harvey, superintendent of drugs; and Mr. Chase, manager of the defendant's Albert Road shop.

The Bench retired, and, on returning, said they felt the defendant had done all in his power to meet the require-

ments of the Act, but in a firm such as his little slips must occasionally occur. They were satisfied that a technical offence had been committed, and fined the defendant 1s. and the costs, amounting to 13s. 6d.

Mr. Burley: You are satisfied that a technical offence has been committed?

The Bench: That is our decision. We would emphasise the word "technical."

### High Court Cases.

#### TREATT v. SAMUELSON.

ON Thursday, January 23, Mr. Younger concluded his speech introducing his case, and Mr. Percy Samuelson was examined by Mr. Stokes. When he was taken into partnership 223l. was due to him, being commission at the rate of 10 per cent. on profits up to June 30, 1899. There was no agreement whatever as to the amount he should draw—certainly not 8l. a week. He took a flat in Park Place at 110l. a year and furnished it at a cost of 150l., Mr. Treatt approving of the step. He then gave his view of the share transactions, stating he suggested to Mr. Treatt that a speculation in West Africans should be closed, and was examined at some length on the Stock Exchange transactions. Before going to Madeira for a holiday last October Mr. Treatt showed him a statement of his drawings from which it appeared he had taken 14l. a week, and, after he had expressed regret, Mr. Treatt suggested that he should write him a friendly letter of regret, which was done on the voyage to please Mr. Treatt. Mr. Hughes sharply cross-examined witness, first endeavouring to get him to admit that when the partnership was entered into there was an understanding as to how much witness would draw, but he admitted only "to the limit of his profits." He was then taken over his drawings item by item with the view to show that he had been living extravagantly. In April of this year he drew 127l. 7s. 10d., in May 34l. 0s. 9d., in June 83l. 11s. 1d., in July 117l. 13s. 11d.; in August 59l. 19s. 7d., in September 37l. 0s. 10d., and in October 263l. 12s., the last including interest. Mr. Hughes next took up witness's alleged statement that his extravagant living was due to his being at liberty to write cheques, and that if he had to go to Mr. Treatt for cheques there would be some control of his expenditure. He denied that, and could not be shaken. There was some pretty fencing between counsel and defendant in regard to this matter, and it transpired that defendant had, at Mr. Treatt's suggestion, snubbed his flat and gone to live with friends, so as to reduce his expenditure. A letter of Mr. Treatt's was also read, in which he suggested to defendant that he should go to Liverpool to escape the temptations of the West-end and start a branch of the business.

In re-examination by Mr. Younger, defendant said the relations between Mr. Treatt and him were, up to the time of this action, most affectionate—like that of father and son, in fact. He wrote the letter from Madeira to please the plaintiff. Although the share-transactions were not partnership matters, they went through the firm's books. He promised to make out for his Lordship accounts showing what his drawings from April to October, 1901, were—whether personal, Stock Exchange, or otherwise; as stated, they include everything. "Nothing is lost in the summations in this case," slyly added Mr. Younger; and (a little later) "Mr. Samuelson has never overdrawn his profits."

"Never overdrawn his profits?" queried his Lordship. "One moment. Even with his losses on the Stock Exchange?"

"Yes, my Lord; that is so," said Mr. Younger and his junior, Mr. Stokes, *sotto voce*. Then Mr. Younger quietly but firmly drew from his client the assurance that he went to live in the West-end at Mr. Treatt's suggestion, and that he had never indulged in West-end extravagances. He had never said he could not control his expenditure.

Mr. Baker, chartered accountant, was the next witness. He had gone through the firm's books, and prepared several balance-sheets. First, he stated that the 3,600l. credited to Mr. Treatt at the beginning of the partnership included 223l. due to Mr. Samuelson as commission. The balance-sheet was submitted, showing that on September 30, 1901,



46%, was due to Mr. Samuelson. Then came four profit-and-loss accounts, the first of which, covering the nine months ending March, 1900, showed Mr. Treatt's profits for the period to be 3,035%, and Mr. Samuelson's 858%; in the six months following Mr. Treatt's profits were 1,258% and Mr. Samuelson's 314%; for the six months ending March, 1901, 1,595% and 436% respectively; and for the six months after that 1,360% to Mr. Treatt and 342% to Mr. Samuelson. Then witness submitted an analysis of Mr. Treatt's drawing-account, the first, from July, 1899, to March, 1900, showing that Mr. Treatt drew 6,099%; in the six months following, 3,456%; for the six months ending March, 1901, 2,439%. Mr. Treatt had received interest on his capital all this time, and Mr. Samuelson had been paying interest on the debit against him of 923%. The credit balances due to Mr. Samuelson were—April 1, 1900, 319%, and so on up to October 1, 1901, when 46% 19s. 7d. was due to him. He had never overdrawn his accounts so far as the account balances showed.

Mr. Thompson (junior counsel for the plaintiff) asked the cross-examination to be adjourned until the next morning, as he had not seen these accounts before.

Mr. Moull, the next and last witness, said he was a friend of Mr. Samuelson, and when he rang him up on the telephone on December 10, 1901, Mr. Treatt replied. He said, "Mr. Samuelson is no longer in my office; his address is 3 Park Place."

This evidence created consternation in court, as it was the opposite to what had been stated by the plaintiff in the witness-box, but the witness was not shaken in his cross-examination.

Mr. Younger then proceeded to address the Court on behalf of the defendant, and was still speaking when the Court adjourned until Friday morning at 10.30.

The foregoing appeared in our Coloured Supplement last week.

#### FOURTH DAY.

At the resumed hearing on Friday, January 24, Mr. Baker, C.A., was further examined by Mr. Younger in regard to Mr. Samuelson's drawing-account, again corroborating his statement of the previous day that it was not overdrawn. Witness was not cross-examined. Defendant was again called in respect to the Stock Exchange transactions and cross-examined by Mr. Hughes. Mr. Younger then resumed his address, stating that he submitted two points—first, that there was no agreement between plaintiff and defendant as to the latter's drawings, and, if there was, that Mr. Treatt ignored it. If there was anything plain in the evidence, it was that Mr. Treatt regarded the 8% a week as what was requisite by Mr. Samuelson for his wants. He submitted that having regard to the way the Stock Exchange transactions were brought into account, the personal expenditure of Mr. Samuelson did not exceed 8% per week. The Stock Exchange losses were part of his drawings, and, allowing for that, the agreement made in April, 1901, had not been broken. Referring to Mr. Treatt's affidavit, he said from beginning to end it was a tissue of exaggeration. It had been stated that Mr. Treatt had been compelled by reason of the defendant overdrawn to pledge his own property for the purpose of obtaining money to carry on the business. When that matter was investigated, however, it was found that Mr. Treatt had obtained a renewal of the old debt that had been incurred months before, and that instead of pledging his property for that purpose, all that he did was to leave his property where it had been for three years. Further, Mr. Treatt in his affidavit did not refer to the striking fact that in the seven weeks before he made that affidavit he had drawn out for himself no less than 800%. The actions of Mr. Samuelson in this matter were nothing compared with those of Mr. Treatt, who had drawn out every penny from the bank and put it in his own name. As a proposal plaintiff was now willing to submit to an alteration in the partnership agreement, whereby cheques should be signed by both parties.

Mr. Hughes here intimated that Mr. Treatt was willing to submit to a valuation of the goodwill, and that Mr. Samuelson should be credited with his share of it—viz., one-fifth. Replying on the whole case, Mr. Hughes submitted it was practically impossible for the partnership to go on. Mr. Treatt was still very anxious that nothing unfair to Samuelson should be done. It was almost inconceivable that Treatt

would have taken Samuelson into partnership without some limit upon his drawings while he was 923% in debt to Treatt. He submitted that Mr. Samuelson's letter of October 31, 1901, which was not written on the spur of the moment or under the slightest pressure, admitted that his drawings were largely in excess of what he agreed to draw, and that he must give up living in the West-end. Mr. Samuelson was, during the twelve months prior to April, 1901, spending at the rate of nearly 1,000% a year. Having regard to the fact that he was heavily indebted to Mr. Treatt, and that after his solemn promise not to overdraw he broke it again, counsel contended that the partnership became impossible. Mr. Treatt did not wish to take advantage of that, so that he was willing to give him his share of the goodwill, and allow him to carry on business, but not under the name of Treatt, or as successor of the business.

This closed counsel's address, after which Mr. Justice Joyce said that in mercy to the plaintiff and defendant he would refrain from delivering judgment until the week after next, matters to remain *in statu quo*, and Mr. Samuelson to keep away from the office.

### Merchandise Marks Act.

#### EMBOSSED AERATED-WATER BOTTLES.

IN the Dublin Court for Crown Cases Reserved on January 23, the long-deferred judgment in the matter of the "Limerick Mineral-water Case," as it has come to be called, was delivered. The Judges were the Lord Chief Justice (Lord O'Brien), Lord Chief Baron Palles, Mr. Justice Andrews, Mr. Justice Johnson, Mr. Justice Gibson, Mr. Justice Madden, Mr. Justice Boyd, Mr. Justice Kenny, Mr. Justice Barton, and Mr. Justice Wright. A number of North of Ireland cases—in Newry, Lurgan, &c.—will be governed by this judgment. The facts of the case are as follows: At the Limerick Hilary Sessions of 1901 Messrs. John McEvilly, Cornelius Conway, and John Cross, jun., were indicted before Judge Adams and a jury, at the suit of the Dublin Mineral-water Association, for selling aerated waters in bottles embossed "Cantrell & Cochrane" and "Hovenden & Orr," but to which labels bearing defendants' names were attached. Substantially the case and evidence for the defence were that the universal practice of Cantrell & Cochrane and Hovenden & Orr was to sell their mineral waters in bottles, charging a single price for both. The bottles as well as the waters then became the property of the purchaser, who got an allowance for the bottles returned. According to this contention the bottles, before the sale by the defendants, had ceased to be the property of the prosecutors. It was also submitted that in using the bottles they acted without intent to defraud anyone, and that they guarded against any possibility of mistake by using their own labels on the bottles, notwithstanding the "embossment." County Court Judge Adams ruled that evidence to such effect was inadmissible, and he refused to direct on that point as requested by counsel for the defendants. He told the jury that if they were satisfied that bottles embossed with the names of "Cantrell & Cochrane" or "Hovenden & Orr" found their way into the possession of the defendants, and that the defendants "knowingly" put into these bottles their own mineral waters and sold these bottles so filled to their customers, they (the jury) were bound to convict. On the issues thus put the jury convicted, and Judge Adams fined the defendants 6% each. Having been asked to state a case, he did so on the following points: (1) Whether he ought to have directed an acquittal; and (2) whether he rightly directed the jury and left them the proper question.

The case had been at argument at previous sittings of the Court for Crown Cases Reserved, and was adjourned for further argument, and also that the County Court Judge might state a supplemental case setting forth (1) the evidence given, and (2) the ground on which he had declined to put specifically the question as to innocence.

Counsel for the defendants: Mr. Brereton Barry, K.C., Mr. Charles Doyle, B.L., and Mr. Lynch, B.L. (instructed by Mr. W. E. Cornibar, solicitor).

For sustaining the conviction: The Solicitor-General, K.C., Mr. O'Shaughnessy, K.C., Mr. Matheson, K.C., Mr. Day, B.L., and Mr. Evans (instructed by Mr. Gerald Byrne, solicitor).



For the Crown: Mr. Murphy, B.L. (instructed by Sir Patrick Coll, Chief Crown Solicitor).

On the re-argument now, Mr. Brereton Barry, K.C., for the defendants, said that the case of "Wood v. Burgess," which had been cited in the matter, did not assist the Court much.

The Lord Chief Justice: I think the Act of Parliament itself is plain enough. I assume that the matter was left properly to the jury. You seem, on the facts, to have no defence at all.

Mr. Barry, K.C.: What I contend is that Judge Adams ought to have put to the jury the question, "Did the defendants act innocently and without intent to defraud?" The real question in the case was whether the Act was intentionally violated by selling something which was not the proper thing described. As far as the purchaser was concerned the label prevented the possibility of mistake. In the eyes of the public the label, and not the "embossment," was the governing trade-description.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy, for the complainants, said, according to the case for the defendants, the only protection the public had was a label that might fall off at any moment. The "innocence" contemplated in the Act of Parliament was innocence of an intention to infringe the statute. In this case the defendants committed the offence after a cautionary notice had been served on them by the prosecutors. The defendants sold something under a description not applicable to it. He submitted that the conviction ought to be affirmed.

Mr. Matheson, K.C., followed on the same side, and Mr. Doyle replied.

The members of the Court, having retired to consider their decision, returned after half an hour, when

The Lord Chief Justice delivered the judgment of the Court as follows: The decision of this Court in a case reserved is limited to the questions of law which the Judge at the trial has reserved, and that decision should be given with regard to the position in which the case stood when the questions were reserved. It was a common case at the trial at both sides that the accused applied a false trade-description to the goods in the bottles as sold by them, and we are therefore of opinion that the first question reserved—namely, whether the Judge ought to have directed an acquittal—should be answered in the negative; and that the second question—namely, whether he rightly directed the jury and left the proper issues to them—having regard to what was the common case, ought to be answered in the affirmative. The conviction is therefore affirmed.

## Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

### LINIMENT OF SOAP.

AT Clerkenwell Police Court on Friday, January 24, the resumed hearing of the charge against Parke's Drug-stores (Limited) for selling methylated liniment of soap was continued before Mr. D'Eyncourt. The Magistrate asked Mr. Beck (who appeared for the defendants) what further course he proposed to take. Mr. Beck replied that he had already given evidence as to the prejudice of the purchaser, and he proposed to call a mass of evidence as to the commercial standard recognised for the liniment.

Mr. Bramall (for the prosecution) pointed out that if it could be proved that the article was sold to the prejudice of the purchaser no amount of evidence showing commercial custom would be of any use, and cited *Dickens v. Randerson* as proof that the British Pharmacopœia applied to drugs mentioned therein, as is the case with soap liniment.

Mr. Beck pointed out that the B.P. is only a *prima-facie* standard, and there is no well-known commercial standard for domestic remedies. Further there are many things in the Pharmacopœia for which it is absolutely impossible for the Pharmacopœia to be a standard. He further argued that the judgment by Mr. Justice Phillimore in *Dickens v. Randerson* clearly indicated that he was entitled to produce evidence as to commercial custom; and he also put in the notice sent to chemists and druggists by the Inland Revenue authorities as to the use of methylated spirit in various liniments.

Mr. D'Eyncourt, said he had come to the conclusion not to admit evidence as to commercial standard. He admitted that the law on the point was not in a satisfactory condition. There are many things in the Pharmacopœia not really drugs,

and for which it probably could not be reasonably accepted as a standard, but it was all the more necessary that chemists in prescribing domestic remedies should be careful to supply those prepared according to the Pharmacopœia standard provided they were included in that.

Evidence was then called to settle whether 4 oz. or 6 oz. of liniment was supplied, the point being in dispute. Alexander Junor, chemist and druggist, who supplied the liniment, said the quantity was 6 oz., and he charged 2*d.* per oz. and 1*d.* for the bottle. In cross-examination by Mr. Bramall witness said he had rectified liniment in the shop for which 4*d.* per oz. was charged. He only sold the rectified preparation when it was ordered by a physician, but he had never sold it in that shop. Mr. Bramall read the "Note" in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1902, pages 282 and 283, which refers to the prohibition of methylated preparations for internal use. Witness had seen that passage, but could not tell if it was in the 1901 Diary or not. [It was.—E.D.]

Mr. D'Eyncourt, after further discussion, referring to the Boots case and Mr. Beck's request for a case for appeal, said he had come to the conclusion that he was precluded from granting a case. In the present case he was quite satisfied that the Pharmacy Act and the decisions in regard to the B.P. articles prevented the question of any commercial standard except that of the B.P. being raised.

Mr. Beck accepted this decision, and said that he would proceed to get a mandamus, and asked the Magistrate if he could not find as to whether or not there had been prejudice to the purchaser.

Mr. D'Eyncourt was quite decided on that point also. There could be no question, he said, that the sale had been to the prejudice of the purchaser, and he would not go behind the decision in *Dickens v. Randerson*. The only way in which the question of prejudice to the purchaser might rise would be if it were shown that the ingredients used, though not identical, were practically the same. He thought that even the question of smell in this case alone showed there was prejudice. The question of price did not arise, although he was perfectly convinced from the evidence of the last witness that methylated soap-liniment could be sold at a much greater profit than the rectified liniment. That of course was only a side-light, and had nothing to do with the case. His finding in the present case, therefore, was that there was a sale to the prejudice of the purchaser. In this connection he desired to recall statements made by many eminent witnesses for the defence whom he asked whether it would be safe for chemists to make a compound of drugs not according to the Pharmacopœia, and all said it would not. The sale, then, was to the prejudice of the purchaser, as the purchaser did not get that which he was entitled to. He imposed the full penalty of 20*s.*, and 10*s.* 10*s.* costs.

Mr. Bramall drew attention to the fact that Parke's had already been fined in regard to three articles previously, so they had had sufficient warning not to carry on the same offence. He did not wish to press strongly for any higher penalty, but he thought that this offence showed that the trade was honeycombed with commercial standards which were undoubtedly to the detriment of the public.

Mr. D'Eyncourt decided, however, that the penalty should stand.

### ORANGE-WINE.

AT Dudley on January 24, John Wilkinson, confectioner, Dudley, was charged with selling orange-wine which Mr. P. Vaughan Hughes, the borough analyst, certified to contain 23-24 per cent. of alcohol and  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. per fl. oz. of salicylic acid. It was suggested by the prosecution that the presence of salicylic acid was an offence. It was not a constituent of orange-wine, and its use as a preservative even was unnecessary, as alcohol was present in excess. Moreover, salicylic acid was held to be injurious to health. In cross-examination, Mr. Vaughan Hughes said for commercial purposes a preservative was necessary in the case of orange-wine to prevent fermentation. He described his method of analysis—bromination, and titrating back with potassium iodide and thiosulphate. In the test he made there was not sufficient tannin to affect the result, although it might have been present in small quantities. Medical evidence was called as to the injury to health by the continued use of wine containing such a quantity of salicylic acid. Mr. Rose



Innes, K.C. (for the defendant), called Dr. B. H. Paul, who said the sample he analysed contained 2 gr. of salicylic acid per pint, one-fifth of the quantity specified by the borough analyst. The test he applied was the only recognised test, and he had thirty or forty years' experience. The sample had been tested by five independent analysts, whose figures were identically the same as his. He had never heard of the test applied by Mr. Hughes, and he should say it was utterly untrustworthy. Mr. Gordon Salamon corroborated Dr. Paul's evidence, and condemned the bromine test as applied to fermented beverages and used by Mr. Hughes. Salicylic acid was, he said, the most valuable and practical preservative for fermented beverages that was known, it kept wine bright and improved its keeping qualities. Evidence to the same effect was given by Dr. A. P. Luff and Mr. R. Bannister.

The Magistrates dismissed the case.

#### CREAM OF TARTAR.

IN Forfar Sheriff Court on January 23, Alex. Bell, manager of the West Town End Co-operative Association, Forfar, who was charged with selling cream of tartar which was certified by Mr. G. D. Macdougall, public analyst, to be adulterated with not less than 30 per cent. of stucco and 20 per cent. of starch. Accused pleaded guilty, and Mr. J. S. Gordon (solicitor) stated on his behalf that the kegs in which the cream of tartar and "cream powder" were kept were very much alike, and the lad in filling up the drawer in which the cream of tartar was kept had by mistake filled it up with "cream powder." Immediately the mistake was discovered the Association stopped using the cream powder.

The Sheriff remarked that he had seen a somewhat similar recipe for killing rats. (Laughter.)

Mr. Freeman, procurator-fiscal, said everyone knew that stucco was an insoluble substance, and sooner or later, he supposed, it would make plaster of Paris in a person's inside. (Laughter.)

The Sheriff observed that the public was entitled to be protected, and imposed a fine of 2*l.*, with the alternative of five days' imprisonment.

#### SELF-RAISING FLOUR.

AT Dudley, on January 22, Alfred Edward Hughes and Daniel Barchall were charged with selling as self-raising flour a substance not of the nature and quality of the article demanded, and also with falsely labelling it. Mr. J. V. Hughes, borough analyst, said the sample examined by him contained 63 gr. per lb. of tartaric acid and 26½ gr. per lb. of bicarbonate of soda, there being also a considerable admixture of potato-starch. In proportion to the bicarbonate of soda the quantity of tartaric acid was double what was required. Dr. Wilkinson, borough medical officer, said bread made with such an admixture of tartaric acid as specified by the analyst would be likely to cause indigestion, flatulence, and eventually diarrhoea. Thirty grains was the highest medicinal dose. Dr. Messiter corroborated. Mr. Green, for the defendants, said he could show that the acid used was in reality cream of tartar, and that if the analyst had tested the sample for the presence of potash and deducted the quantity found from the acid it would have been found that the quantity of the acid was not excessive. He could also prove that there was no potato-starch in the mixture. Mr. E. W. T. Jones, public analyst for Wolverhampton, stated that in good self-raising flour the chemical constituents were 23 gr. per lb. of tartaric acid, or 46 gr. of cream of tartar, and 46 gr. of carbonate of soda. In the sample furnished him by Mr. Green he found 25.2 gr. per lb. of carbonate of soda and 47 gr. of cream of tartar. There was very little indication of free tartaric acid. The case was adjourned in order that a sample should be sent to Somerset House.

#### LINIMENT OF SOAP, PAREGORIC, AND CAMPHORATED OIL.

ON January 24, Arthur Spink, trading as a chemist at 134 Theobalds Road, W., appeared at Bow Street, before Mr. Fenwick, to answer charges of selling paregoric elixir said to be 18-10 per cent. deficient in alcohol and liniment of soap containing 40 per cent. of methylated spirit. Mr. H. C. Jones, who prosecuted for the Borough Council of Holborn,

agreed to the adjournment of the liniment-of-soap charge in order that a sample should be sent to Somerset House for analysis.

Mr. Jones then said he wished to withdraw the summons as to paregoric.

Mr. Fenwick: Why?

Mr. Jones: A mistake has been made in the analyst's certificate.

Mr. Fenwick: What is the nature of the mistake?

Mr. Jones: The analyst, in his certificate, had said the B.P. article "should contain at least 60 per cent. of alcohol" instead of "should be made with 60 per cent. alcohol."

Mr. Kirby (for the Chemists' Defence Association) asked for costs, pointing out that a mistake had been made by the other side, of which he had had no notice. As a consequence he had brought several witnesses who could have given a complete answer to the charge on the merits of the case, as he had no desire to win on a technicality.

Mr. Jones said the mistake had just been discovered in court that day.

The Magistrate thought Mr. Kirby ought to be satisfied at getting the case withdrawn, and refused costs.

The case which followed was against Mr. Henry Jenkins, chemist and druggist, 73 Red Lion Street, Holborn, who was charged with selling camphorated oil deficient in camphor to the extent of at least 76 per cent., and containing 90.7 per cent. of a mineral oil in place of olive oil. Mr. Jones, who prosecuted in this case also, said it had been held that even if a customer did not ask for a drug compounded according to the British Pharmacopœia it would be to the prejudice of the purchaser unless it was compounded in accordance with that standard. The inspector who bought the oil said he asked for 4 oz., and was served in two bottles, paying 7*d.* When he told the defendant that he had purchased the oil for the purpose of analysis he said, "It is not camphorated oil at all," and wanted it back.

The defendant (a patriarchal-looking gentleman) said the inspector only paid 5*d.* for the oil and 2*d.* for the bottles. He urged rather eloquently that the inspector must have known he could not buy 4 oz. of pure camphorated oil for 5*d.* He had to stock two qualities, as very few people would pay the price of the genuine article. The inspector must have known he was getting the cheap article, reiterated the defendant. The bottles were not labelled "Camphorated oil." He kept B.P. camphorated oil in stock, but this quality he always labelled "Embrocation." The defendant, who was fined 3*l.* and 12*s.* 6*d.* costs, asked the Magistrate to kindly tell him of what charge he was convicted; but Mr. Fenwick declined to discuss the matter further.

#### MERCURY-OINTMENT.

AT the Mansion House on January 27, before Alderman Sir Horatio Davies, M.P., Henry Lamplough (Limited) were charged with selling at their branch in 134 Cheapside, 3 oz. of mercury-ointment which was 70 per cent. deficient in mercury. Mr. Vickery, who prosecuted, said the purchaser was entitled to have a drug prepared according to the British Pharmacopœia, and he put in the B.P. to show that the mercury-ointment supplied did not come up to the standard. He quoted the case of *Dickens v. Randerson* as bearing on the point. The inspector (Mr. W. H. May) having given evidence of purchase, Mr. Beck, who defended, obtained from him the admission that two other articles—viz., liniment of chloroform and boric-acid ointment, had been obtained on the same occasion, and had both been found correct. The assistant to the defendants, who handed him the samples, said (after he had informed him that the samples were for analysis) he should have inquired whether it was strong or "mit." mercury-ointment that was required. He agreed that it was a matter of common knowledge that the use of the strong mercury-ointment would be dangerous to the general public. The strong mercury-ointment would possibly be supplied only on a physician's prescription, and what he gave to Messrs. Lamplough's manager was not a prescription, but an order.

The Alderman: But a chemist would not take upon himself the responsibility of supplying the dilute ointment if "ung hydrargyri" was ordered on a prescription.

Mr. Beck: I quite agree, your Worship, he would not, provided it were a physician's prescription. But there is a



difference, which every chemist would recognise, between a prescription and this order.

Mr. Beck then went on to contend that, although the B.P. is the standard for physicians' prescriptions, there are many things in its pages for which it cannot possibly be a standard, and for which there may be a commercial standard quite apart from that of the B.P. The strong mercury-ointment of the B.P., if sold on every occasion when "mercury-ointment" was asked for by the general public, would cause serious injury to the user. The chemist, therefore, exercises great care in the sale of the article, and (unless specifically ordered by a physician) supplies a dilute article which will not be injurious, and which is what the customer wants. He then went on to say that he proposed to call several chemists of exceptional experience, who would speak to the existence of a commercial standard. Mr. Vickery objected to this evidence being taken, but the Alderman was disposed to allow it. He asked first, however, about the difference in the cost, and it was pointed out that the cost of the diluted ointment would be 4*d.* an oz. (the price charged by the defendants), while the strong ointment would be 6*d.* an oz. James Francis Quin, who said he possessed the Irish pharmaceutical qualification, and was an assistant at 134 Cheapside, deposed to receiving the order (produced) from the manager, and, in consequence of a discussion with the manager, he put up the dilute mercury-ointment. He had never sold the strong mercury-ointment over the counter in his life. Evidence of a similar purport was given by Messrs. Lamplough's manager, Alfred Ernest Coleman. He explained that he knew the order was not written by a physician, as it contained neither the doctor's initials nor the "R" sign. Besides, there were no directions for use.

Mr. Beck, then referring to the "commercial standard" defence, called the Alderman's attention to the paragraph in Justice Phillimore's decision in *Dickens v. Randerson*, in which he said "the defendant had failed to prove there was a commercial article," which, said Mr. Beck, indicated clearly that evidence of a commercial standard was permissible.

The Alderman said it seemed quite clear to his mind that Messrs. Lamplough had supplied the wrong article, although he was perfectly satisfied that it was not done with any intention of fraud. It was merely a mistake that they would have to stand by. He would therefore allow evidence of commercial standard to be given to guide him as to the penalty.

Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones deposed that he would supply "ung. hydrarg. mit." if he received such an order as that produced. In the absence of "fort." or "B.P.," and recognising as he would that the order was not from a physician, he thought he would not be justified in supplying anything else.

"But," said the Alderman, "this is written in Latin; wouldn't you think that somebody wrote it who knew something of its properties?"

"Perhaps so," replied the witness, "but I have had orders given me over the counter copied in Latin from various magazines, from people who did not know anything about what they were writing." He had never seen strong mercury-ointment ordered as "ung. hydrargyri," even by a doctor. The doctors generally indicated their desire by adding "fort." or "B.P."

A fine of 2*s.* 6*d.* and 18*s.* 6*d.* costs was imposed.

JOHN CHARLES MEACHER, chemist and druggist, 1A Wood Street, Cheapside, E.C., was then charged with selling mercury-ointment which was 60 per cent. deficient in mercury. In this case 1*s.* 6*d.* had been paid for the sample, a fact which the prosecution made the most of. The Alderman said the defendant appeared to have followed no standard in particular in the preparation of the ointment, and fined him 40*s.* and 12*s.* 6*d.* costs.

### Medicine-stamp Act.

#### NO LICENCE.

At the West London Police Court on January 28, before Mr. Lane, K.C., William A. Shephard, pharmaceutical chemist, 155 King Street, Hammersmith, W., was summoned, at the instance of the Inland Revenue, for selling a d exposing for sale Dr. King's dandelion and quinine pills without a licence. Mr. G. H. Dennis, barrister, who supported

the summons, said the defendant not having renewed his licence for a shop at 4 Greyhound Road, Hammersmith, an officer called, and was supplied with the box of pills. The box had on it a stamp for duty. Defendant said he took out licences every year, and had the licences then. The licences had not been taken out on the day the officer called. He stated that it had been customary for the officer to call on two occasions and remind him as to the licences; but on his second visit, in this instance, he must have made a purchase instead. Defendant was stated to have been previously convicted of a similar offence, and a fine of 5*l.* was imposed, with 2*s.* costs.

#### GROCERS AND HEADACHE-POWDERS.

At the Ruabon Court on Friday, January 24, Benjamin Davies, grocer, was summoned for exhibiting for sale certain patent medicines without holding a licence. Mr. F. A. Stirk, London, who prosecuted on behalf of Somerset House authorities, and said the case was of much importance to grocers throughout the country who sold patent medicines. The local Inland Revenue officer, Mr. George Ulyett, entered defendant's shop on October 31 last, and purchased a penny powder, warranted to cure neuralgia. Defendant admitted he had no licence, and refused to obtain one. Defendant pleaded ignorance of his liability, and said he sent the powders back immediately, and, therefore, did not obtain a licence. He was fined 12*s.* 6*d.*, inclusive of costs.

### County Court Cases.

#### NUT-OIL v. EDIBLE OIL.

In the City of London Court, before Judge Rentoul, K.C., M.P., on January 24, Charles Windschuegle & Co., oil and chemical merchants, Leadenhall Street, E.C., sued Mr. Max Snaoroff, 25 Lady Lane, Leeds, for the value of a cask of nut-oil supplied. The defence was that the defendant wanted white nut-oil and not yellow nut-oil, which the plaintiffs had sent in the first instance, but after they were told of their mistake a barrel of palest edible oil (*i.e.*, refined cotton oil) was also sent, and they now wanted to charge for nut-oil. After hearing witnesses and counsel, Judge Rentoul said there was an extraordinary conflict of testimony. The defendant in his evidence said he objected to the yellow nut-oil which was sent him, because it was not as genuine as the white. He had not taken delivery of the nut-oil which was now sued for. Judge Rentoul said he must find for the defendant, and judgment was given accordingly.

#### THE DOCTOR AND THE CHEMIST.

At Romford County Court on January 20, Dr. A. J. Ryan claimed 50*l.* from Mr. Henry Winstanley Whitelock, chemist and druggist, Romford. Plaintiff deposed that in 1900 he discussed with Mr. Whitelock as to the possibility of opening business at Chadwell Heath, and subsequently a partnership was agreed upon. He advanced defendant 50*l.* At this time the terms of the agreement had been accepted on both sides, but the agreement had not been signed. A few months afterwards there was a disagreement about the cost of fitting the new shop, and plaintiff told defendant he did not wish to enter into partnership with him. Defendant refused to do anything about the 50*l.*, and after a time plaintiff gave him the offer of paying by instalments, and allowed him 10*l.* for any trouble he might have put him to. Subsequently, however, both parties agreed that the money should be used as rent for the surgery, but this arrangement likewise fell through. Afterwards defendant complained that he had a great deal of trouble with assistants, that he had put the business up for sale, and that he would pay plaintiff the whole amount when he had sold it. During all the interviews defendant had never suggested that plaintiff was his partner, nor had he considered him with regard to selling the business. The name over the door was "Whitelock." The defendant's contention was that the partnership had not been determined, and he (Mr. Whitelock) had pointed out to Dr. Ryan that if he wished to withdraw, there was no alternative but to wind up the concern as quickly and as cheaply as possible and if the result warranted it, hand him the 50*l.* He had never agreed at any time to release Dr. Ryan from his obligation as a partner in the business. Further evidence having been given. Judge Tindal Atkinson pointed out that the



plaintiff could not recover the 50% as money lent, because it was clear, on his own evidence, that he did not advance it as a loan, but as part payment or a contribution towards the expenses of the then existing partnership. If he was entitled to recover at all, it was by the agreement alleged to have been made after the partnership had come to an end.

The jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, and judgment was entered accordingly.

## Bankruptcies and Failures.

**Re THOMAS PHILIP GARRETT**, 33 Commercial Street, Newport, trading as Garrett Brothers, Chemist and Druggist.

The creditors under this failure met on Wednesday, January 29, at the London Bankruptcy Buildings, before Mr. George H. Llewellyn, the Newport Official Receiver. The debtor, who filed his own petition on December 19, has lodged accounts showing liabilities 4,331*l.* 16*s.*, and assets valued at 1,537*l.* 15*s.* The failure is ascribed to bad trade, severe competition, and heavy rent and rates. The observations of the Official Receiver were reported in the *C. & D.* last week, page 174. The Chairman now reported that acting upon special proxies sent in by creditors, he nominated as trustee Mr. Walter Hunter, accountant, Corn Street, Newport. Mr. Hunter was elected. The public examination of the debtor is appointed for February 6, at the Town Hall, Newport. Appended is a list of the principal creditors, viz:—

	£	s.	d.
Anglo-American Optical Company, London ... ..	13	12	1
Berger, L., & Son, Homerton ... ..	25	4	1
Bourne, Johnson & Co, London ... ..	15	1	7
Butcher, W., & Sons, London ... ..	10	7	8
Christy & Co, London ... ..	33	5	9
Colbourne, Ward & Coulman, Newport	12	0	0
Cordey, T., Newport ... ..	10	7	0
Evans, Lescher & Webb, London ... ..	16	7	5
Garrett, executors of Miss M., Newport	1,135	0	0
Garrett, Miss H., Newport ... ..	559	15	0
Grossmith & Sons, London ... ..	12	8	4
Horne & Sons, London... ..	18	9	3
Howell, T. H., Newport ... ..	10	0	0
Humin, B., Birmingham ... ..	20	0	0
Johns, F. W., Newport ... ..	18	5	0
Levi, J., & Co, London ... ..	18	18	4
London City and Midland Bank, Newport ... ..	115	12	4
Lynch & Co. (Limited), London ... ..	17	10	8
Oldfield, Pattinson & Co., Manchester	11	3	5
Paget Prize Plate Company, Walford...	19	1	5
Parke, Davis & Co., London ... ..	28	10	2
Pilchers (Limited), London ... ..	18	9	10
Price, Mrs. H. S., Newport ... ..	1,452	14	5
Sutton, W., & Co, London ... ..	104	16	5
Simmons, E. & R., London ... ..	10	0	0
Simmonds, T. F., Bristol ... ..	45	14	6
Williams, Messrs. A. L., Caerleon ... ..	40	0	0
Willows & Co., London ... ..	22	2	0
Wills & Co., Bristol ... ..	10	15	6
Wyles (Limited), Coventry ... ..	25	16	1
Rent ... ..	160	0	3
Rates, taxes, and wages ... ..	58	7	2

**Re C. R. VALENTINE**, Tooley Street, S.E., Colonial-produce Merchant, Agent, and Dealer.—The public examination of this debtor was resumed on Tuesday before Mr. Registrar Linklater at the London Bankruptcy Court, and after some further questions he was allowed to pass.

**Re ARTHUR CLAUDE HOWARD NEWTON-MASON**, 113 High Street, West Bromwich, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of this debtor was to have been held on January 24, but owing to the illness of the debtor it was adjourned.

**Re SOLOMON SERVAS MAW**, 123 Crookesmoor Road, and 2 Arthur Street, Addy Street, Sheffield, manufacturing chemist.—Under this failure the Official Receiver of the Sheffield Bankruptcy Court announces that he is prepared to pay to the unsecured creditors a supplemental dividend of 1*s.* 13*d.* in the pound.

**Re JOSEPH EDWARD LYNDALE**, 167 Ashley Gardens, Westminster, now or late managing director of Myname Soap Company (Limited), 59 Eastcheap, E.C.—At the London Bankruptcy Court on January 17 the public examination of this debtor was adjourned *sine die*. Mr. G. W. Chapman, Official Receiver, reported that the proceedings were instituted by a creditor in September last. The debtor had not surrendered, but had

written from Paris. He was undischarged from a previous bankruptcy, and under the circumstances it was thought that no good purpose would be served by keeping open the public examination in this instance. Mr. Registrar Brougham endorsed that view, and closed the examination *sine die*.

**Re JAMES MENZIES**, trading as a chemist at 81 Jamaica Street, Glasgow.—In the Glasgow Sheriff Court on January 27 this debtor was examined before Sheriff Boyd. He stated that he started about five years ago in partnership with Charles Wylie, horse dealer, Ayr, in the drug business, at Jamaica Street, Glasgow, but he bought out Wylie and acquired the business for himself about three years ago. He carried on the business until November 28 last, when, being pressed for money, he took steps to dispose of it, but his estimate of the stock and fittings was at least 150*l.* more than the amount brought out in the stock-sheets. It was his belief that if the business was properly sold everyone would be paid. The state of affairs showed a deficiency of 525*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.*, equal to a dividend of 9*s.* 3*d.* in the pound, subject to the expenses of realisation. The liabilities were put down at 978*l.* 19*s.* 11*d.*, and the assets at 453*l.* 18*s.* 6*d.*

**Re HANNAH BROAD** (widow), 36 Coleridge Road, Crouch End, late of Hornsey Rise Gardens, N., Chemist.

This bankrupt applied on Wednesday, January 29, to Mr. Registrar Giffard, at the London Bankruptcy Court, for an order of discharge, and it was granted subject to the usual suspension for two years on statutory grounds.

## Deeds of Arrangement.

**Dewdney, Albert Victor**, 69 St. George's Road, Pimlico, chemist. Trustee, George White, 14 Old Jewry Chambers, E.C., chartered accountant. Dated, January 18; filed, January 22. Secured creditors, 350*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 253*l.* 5*s.* 9*d.*; estimated net assets, 150*l.* 16*s.* 10*d.* The creditors include:—

	£	s.	d.
Camwal (Limited), London ... ..	14	0	0
Davy, Hill & Son, Yates & Hicks, London	37	0	0
Idris & Co., London .. ...	19	0	0
Sutton & Co., London ... ..	12	0	0

**Palmer, Frank Hermann**, 47 St. Nicholas Street, Ipswich, chemist. Trustee, Julius P. Harvey, Ipswich, chartered accountant. Dated, January 18; filed, January 23. Liabilities unsecured, 499*l.*; estimated net assets, 200*l.* No trade creditors.

## Gazette.

### Partnership Dissolved.

**Ferrett, G. S.**, and **Routley, E. W.**, under the style of Ferrett & Routley, Bexhill-on-Sea, chemists.

### The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

#### RECEIVING ORDER.

**Watson, Solomon George**, Hove and Brighton, surgeon.

#### ADJUDICATION.

**Martyn, George**, late Orchard Street, Portman Square, physician and surgeon.

## New Companies & Company News.

**UNLIMITED (LIMITED)**.—Capital 10,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. To carry on business in twenty-four specified branches, including dentists, chemists, &c.

**TUTTLE & SONS (LIMITED)**.—Capital 30,000*l.* in 5*l.* shares Will carry on business as drapers, chemists, &c., and take over the business of H. Tuttle & Son at Lowestoft.

**BROTHERTON & CO. (LIMITED)**.—Capital 250,000*l.* in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of an ammonia and tar distiller, &c., carried on by E. A. Brotherton at Leeds and elsewhere, as "Brotherton & Co." The first directors are E. A. Brotherton, G. Brumfit, and J. Wyld. Registered office, Commercial Buildings, Park Row, Leeds.

**TABOR, TREGO & Co. (1902) (LIMITED).**—Capital 87,500*l.*, in 80,000 preference shares of 1*l.* each and 150,000 ordinary shares of 1*s.* each. Objects: To acquire and take over the japanned and varnish manufacturing business of "Tabor, Trego & Co. (Limited)," and to carry on the business. The first directors are T. Jackson and three others to be appointed by the subscribers. Qualification, 1,000*l.*. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 42 New Broad Street, E.C.

**HYDROSOL (LIMITED).**—Capital 15,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (10,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of processors of petroleum merchants, and warehousemen, now carried on at Dunster House, Mincing Lane, E.C., and at Hydrosol Wharf, Seven Road, Poplar, E., as "Hoffman & Shoemaker," to adopt an agreement with M. A. Hoffman and W. M. Shoemaker, jun., and to carry on the business of processors of petroleum, oil refiners, storers, and dealers, chemists, druggists, &c. The first directors are M. A. Hoffman and W. M. Shoemaker, jun. Qualification, 200*l.*. Remuneration, 1 guinea each per board-meeting attended. Registered office, Dunster House, Mincing Lane, E.C.

**STANDARD AMMONIA COMPANY OF SYDNEY (LIMITED).**—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with certain vendor companies (which are not named), and to carry on the business of chemical-manufacturers, chemical-refiners, manufacturing chemists, artificial-manure manufacturers and dealers, &c. The first subscribers are:—C. Page, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C., merchant; P. J. Lovegrove, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C., secretary; W. J. Lawrence, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C., clerk; A. Harris, 70 Gracechurch Street, E.C., clerk; F. Christian, 47 Brookbank Road, Lewisham, clerk; G. H. Dolman, 11 Fordyce Hill, Lewisham, clerk; and W. G. Luxford, 13 Canonbury Grove, N., clerk.

**UNIVERSAL CHEMICAL MANUFACTURING AND EXPORTATION COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement between H. E. Stubbs and O. J. Broederlow and to carry on the business of chemical-manufacturers, manufacturing chemists, druggists, oil and colourmen, &c. The first subscribers are:—H. E. Stubbs, Dyserth, Flintshire, chemical broker; Mrs. E. W. Stubbs, Dyserth, Flintshire; Miss S. G. M. Stubbs, Dyserth, Flintshire; Miss L. M. T. Stubbs, Dyserth, Flintshire; R. A. Hampson, Liverpool, solicitor; Mrs. M. Broederlow, Tantallon House, Liscaid; and O. J. Broederlow, 20 Hoekins Hey, Liverpool, chemical broker. No initial public issue. The first directors are Harold E. Stubbs and Oscar J. Broederlow. Registered office, 12-13 Cleveland Square, Liverpool.

**HULL CHEMICAL WORKS (LIMITED).**—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a manufacturing-chemist carried on by George C. Robinson at Kingston-upon-Hull, as the Hull Chemical Works, and to carry on the business of manufacturing chemists and druggists, and manufacturers of the vendor's specialities: "Stannum," "Phaston," "Sheep-dip powder," "Sheep-dip paste," "Bitter oil" insecticide, and "Humber brand" insecticide. The first subscribers are:—W. Wheatley, 410 Anlaby Road, Hull, wine and spirit merchant; G. C. Robinson, 295 Spring Bank West, Hull, analytical chemist; J. Fawcett, 4 Park Avenue, Hull, hide-merchant; W. R. Wheatley, Gledholt, Hesse, wine and spirit merchant; W. Fell, 1 Newland Avenue, Hull, clerk; E. L. Ferraby, 2 Lambton Street, Hull; and A. H. Cowley, 430 Anlaby Road, Hull, wine and spirit merchant. No initial public issue. The first directors are W. Wheatley, G. C. Robinson (manager), and J. Fawcett. Qualification 100*l.*. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 94 Cumberland Street, Kingston-upon-Hull.

**H. W. CARTER & Co (LIMITED).**—The directors announce a dividend on the ordinary shares of 10 per cent.

**CARLTON'S DRUG-STORES (LIMITED).**—Mr. Samuel Roberts, 9 and 11 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C., would be glad if any or all creditors of this concern would communicate with him.

**GLOBE SOAP AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED),** Middleton.—It was resolved on January 6, and confirmed on January 20, that this company be wound up. Mr. A. W. Pitt, Manchester Old Road, Middleton, is the liquidator.

**LENNON (LIMITED) (S. AFRICA).**—A new issue of 2,500 cumulative preference shares of 10*l.* each is announced. The preference shares are entitled to a cumulative preference dividend, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly on June 30 and December 31. The interest due on June 30, 1902, on the above issue will be calculated from the dates of the respective payments.

**PRICE'S PATENT CANDLE COMPANY (LIMITED)**—The directors announce that the accounts to December 31 show

a profit for 1901 of about 88 400*l.*, to which has to be added 6,637*l.* undivided profit from 1900, making together about 95,000*l.*. Deducting the dividend of 15*s.* per share amounting to 28,125*l.* paid in September, 1901, a sum of about 66,900*l.* is available for disposition. The directors recommend that the usual sum of 12,500*l.* be written off for depreciation, that 37,500*l.* be applied in paying a dividend of 1*l.* per share, that 10,000*l.* be added to the reserve fund, and that the remainder, about 6,900*l.*, be carried forward.

**BORAX CONSOLIDATED (LIMITED).**—The report of the directors for the year ended September 30, 1901, stated that the profits for the period, after providing for all management and administration expenses, are 258,021*l.*. The sum of 15,000*l.* has been placed to depreciation reserve account, and 5,825*l.* to the credit of the debenture stock redemption sinking fund. Of the balance of 151,638*l.* to the credit of profit and loss account, after providing for the items above mentioned, the final dividend on the preference shares and the third interim dividend on the ordinary shares paid on November 1 absorb 37,000*l.*. And from the balance the directors propose to pay a final dividend of 1*l.* per share on the ordinary shares, making 17½ per cent. for the year, 60,000*l.*; to place to general reserve, 30,000*l.*; to write off expenditure on inspection and development of properties, 8,843*l.*; and to carry forward 15,794*l.*

## Trade Notes.

**MESSRS. SMITH, STANISTREET & Co.'s** branch at 47 Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta, is the shop figured on page 144 of our last issue, not the headquarters establishment.

**OXO PROFITS** are becoming a feature. The Liebig's Extract of Meat Company now announce that a minimum retail profit of 16½ per cent. is assured, with 2 to 5 per cent. extra in the form of rebate.

**ROYAL PLATES.**—Messrs. Cadett & Neall (Limited), Ashted, Surrey, are making in our advertisement-columns an announcement of special discounts on the Royal dry-plates for the Coronation year.

**SCHIEFFELIN'S MANUFACTURES.**—Messrs. Thomas Christy & Co., 4, 10 and 12 Old Swan Lane, E.C., have been appointed sole agents for the United Kingdom for the preparations of Messrs. Schieffelin & Co., New York, of which they carry a full stock.

**ASPIRIN TABLETS.**—Aspirin, the new combination of acetic and salicylic acid, first described by Witthauer, and used for rheumatism in the same manner as salicylic acid or salicylate of soda, is now sent out by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., 111 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., in tablet form. The tablets are packed in bottles of 100.

**THE CROWN PERFUMERY COMPANY** have recently engaged two well-known travellers. Mr. Cowel is taking the northern counties in their interests, and Mr. Mawdsley will, from February 1, call upon business men in the South of London. The company now have three motor cars for the use of their travellers going daily within the metropolitan area.

**OUR WINTER ISSUE.**—The publisher desires us to notify one or two points about the advertisements in last week's number which subscribers should note. First, Messrs. H. P. Thompson & Co.'s advertisement on pages 26 and 27 should have the address of the firm on each page—namely, 96 Aldersgate Street, London, E.C.; second, two advertisements on page 222—viz., those of the Neena Company (Limited), and Messrs. Creig & Co., Pall Mall, have been indexed as page 206. See also note page 211 this issue.

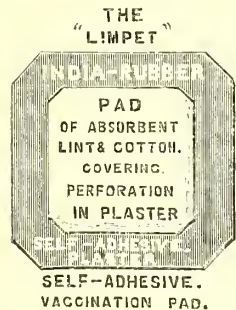
**CORONATION SOAP.**—The first sample of toilet soap prepared especially for this Coronation year comes to us from Messrs. Jarvie & Co. (Limited), Scotia Soapworks, Coatbridge. It is a soap in handsome oval cakes, beautifully moulded so as to show portraits, in relief, of King Edward and Queen Alexandra. The soap is nicely perfumed and put up in attractive boxes of three tablets. It is a popular line and



should sell well up to Coronation time at least. The same company make another quite elegant toilet soap which they call "Heather Bloom." It has a triple-milled basis, is uncoloured, and is delicately scented. The cake is in the best oval style, and each one is wrapped in wax paper and outer wrapper with cream-coloured surface. This soap also is boxed in threes as a first-class article to sell at a popular price.

THE "TABLOID" OPHTHALMIC products of Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C. have received an addition in the shape of (X) atropine sulphate, gr.  $\frac{1}{100}$ . The tablets are designed to avoid objections attendant on the use of stock solutions, which are apt to decompose. The products under examination are very small tablets, and dissolve at once on being placed in the eye.

THE LIMPET VACCINATION-PAD, to which some reference was made in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST last week, is manufactured by Messrs. Solport Brothers, 188 Goswell Road, London, E.C. The woodcut given herewith shows the form of the pad. It is one of the best things of the kind that we have seen, as we find that it considerably reduces the irritation when the inflammatory stage of the "pock" is reached. It is sufficiently cheap to enable the victim to use several until the trouble is over. It consists, as previously stated, of a piece of absorbent cotton and lint inserted upon perforated india-rubber adhesive plaster. We think



the manufacturers might also make a pad with boric or other antiseptic lint.

WELLCOME RESEARCH LABORATORIES.—The following communications to the Chemical Society from the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories have been published in pamphlet form:—"The Constituents of Pilocarpine," Part III, by Dr. H. A. D. Jowett; "A New Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -ethyltricarballic Acid," by Dr. H. A. D. Jowett; "The Constituents of the Essential Oil of *Asarum canadense*," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. F. H. Lees; and "The Derivatives of Gallic Acid," by Dr. F. B. Power and Mr. Frank Shedden

## Festivities.

### LONDON COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

"Holborn Restaurant, Venetian Chamber; Number, 200; Time, 7; Waiter, G. Smith." So the notice-board proclaimed. It was on Wednesday night of this week, and upstairs (in the room where are specimens of perch, pike, salmon, and fabulous fish which piscatorial men have put in cases) we found the two hundred or thereabouts, Mr. Henry Wootton, B.Sc., Principal of the College, greeting them, with Mr. Percy M. Thornton, M.P., by his side. Ere long, G. Smith (the double of Mr. Arthur Balfour) cried out "Gentlemen, dinner is served"; and about an hour after that, "Gentlemen, pray silence," &c. Before we knew it, Mr. Thornton, in his best parliamentary manner, had toasted "The King" for us, and introduced a clever trio of banjo and piano players, with a singer or two, who amused us exceedingly all the evening. There were four toasts only. After "The King" came "The London College," proposed in the best Fraserian style by Mr. W. J. of that ilk, who told us that the College is built on nice gravel soil, that the keeper of the King's conscience used to live there, he had seen deer in the park close by forty-five years ago, and, best of all, the London College is fuller than ever, going strong; and Mr. Wootton—well, he blushed at the compliments and the cheers which greeted his rising. Two of the things he said stuck in our memory—first, that on one occasion all the ladies at the College had passed, and half the pass at the Square on another occasion came from London College. "The Staff" was given by Mr. H. Grayson, and Mr. C. E. F. Vallet replied. Mr. Grayson's was a good Lancashire speech, which commenced with the remark that

his selection for the job reminded him of a remark by a friend of his when he passed the Minor—"This is, indeed, a flattery." Mr. W. B. Nelson, a demonstrator, gave "The Students," for whom Mr. E. W. James replied. Before he presented the prizes, Mr. Thornton, in the course of a happy speech, referred to the necessity for chemists being thoroughly well educated, so that they may dispense with accuracy the prescriptions of physicians; and although, he said, there is a school growing up which advises us that we should never take any medicine, he thought common sense is all that is necessary to correct such absurd ideas. The purpose of pharmacy is to do good to humanity, and he was proud to think that such an institution as the London College exists in his constituency. The following are the medallists of the College during the past session:—

Sidney J. Banks—silver medals (materia medica and pharmacy) and bronze medal (botany).  
John A. Jenkins—silver medals (chemistry and materia medica).  
Edward Corner—silver medal (pharmacy) and bronze medal (chemistry).  
G. P. A. Hunt—silver medal (chemistry) and bronze medal (materia medica).  
Bertha A. Kenway—silver medal (botany).  
Frank E. Rogers—silver medal (botany).  
Lincoln Ridehalgh—bronze medals (materia medica and pharmacy).  
William F. Clarke—bronze medal (pharmacy).  
Donald Colebrook—bronze medal (chemistry).  
Samuel H. Passmore—bronze medal (botany).  
Albert W. Ashkanazy—bronze medal (materia medica).

Much cheering greeted all the honours-men as they came up to receive their rewards, and it was a pleasure to hear the Chairman's "pat" remarks. The evening provided a most enjoyable reunion, take it for all in all.

### SWANSEA AND DISTRICT CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The tenth annual dinner of this Association was held at the Hotel Cameron, Swansea, on January 23. The President (Mr. D. J. Davies) was supported by Mr. C. B. Allen (Vice-President of the Pharmaceutical Society), Messrs. N. M. Grose, Lloyd, J. T. Davies, Hughes, Arnold (Cwmavon), Havard, Davies (Clydach), Rees (Skewen), Keall, Davies, jun., Moses Jones, Rees (St. Thomas), Richards, Isaac and Ivor Jones (Neath), Bowen (Pontardulais), and John Davies (Secretary). The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the President gave the "Pharmaceutical Society," and Mr. Allen replied. He said the Society was not a trades union, but it watched very particularly over the educational advancement of the trade. He hoped the time was not far distant when the public would recognise the education required, and the skill and care necessary to properly prepare medicines, and pay the dispensing pharmacist a fair remuneration. At present he was worse paid than a skilled mechanic. Mr. Isaac (Neath), Mr. Davies (Walter Road), and others spoke their high appreciation of Mr. Allen, who subsequently proposed a vote of thanks to the President and the Hon. Secretary.

### BRADFORD CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION.

The members of this Association, who have been kept wandering from place to place during the greater part of this season because of their inability to make satisfactory arrangements, went to the Café Royal, Darley Street, on Tuesday night for a musical evening, and were pleasantly accommodated there. As the President was figuring pretty largely as a contributor to the programme, Mr. J. M. Newbould took the chair in his stead. A pleasant programme of items was gone through, the President (Mr. A. Hanson) contributing as vocalist and pianist, and the other musicians being Miss Bartour (singer), Mr. James Hanson (violin), and Mr. Stott (piano).

### GAY CUTTERS.

The managers and assistants of Boots (Limited) at Lincoln had a musical and terpichorean evening at the Lindum Restaurant on January 25. The company numbered about eighty, and an enjoyable time was spent.—The first annual ball of the Boots' Football Club was held in the Cambridge Hall, Sheffield, on January 16. There was a large number present, and dancing was kept up till the early hours of the morning. The M.C.'s were Messrs. S. Paddon, T. H. Paddon, and R. T. Simpson, and Mr. J. W. Ross was Secretary.

## Trade Report.

**NOTICE TO BUYERS.**—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: January 30.

**THE** business tone in Mincing Lane is very dull this week, and changes in value are few. Perhaps the principal event has been the holding of the largest vanilla sale on record, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday. There was a larger attendance of buyers than usual, and the bulk sold at irregular but steady prices. All essential oils are quiet, and star-anise seems to have further fallen away. English lavender oil will probably be dearer, as low-priced offerings have now almost been cleared off the market. Quinine had a slight spurt towards the end of last week, but since then practically no business has been done. The following table shows the principal changes of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Lobelia	Oil lavender	Aconite	Ginger
Wild cherry	(Eng.)	(Germ.)	Oil anise,
bark	Pepper black	Elemi	star
		Morphine	Paraldehyde
		Quinine	Pimento
			Shellac

### Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from January 22 to 29, inclusive:—Acetic acid, 46 cks.; urea, 23; arsenic (@ Melbourne) 40 cks., (@ Hamburg) 40; benzoin (@ Penang) 174 cs., (@ Singapore) 134 cs., calcium carbide (@ Havre) 1,494 drums; camphor, 500 cs.; cardamoms, 280; castor oil (E.I.) 350 cs., (Ital.) 12, (Belg.) 141 brls.; cinchona (@ Ceylon) 270, (@ Calicut) 272; cod-liver oil (Norweg.), 301 brls.; croton-seed, 17; drugs (@ Trieste), 79; essential oils (@ Messina) 229 pkgs., (@ Ostend) 10 cs., (@ Palermo) 100 pkgs.; eucalyptus oil (@ Melbourne) 23 cs.; drugs (@ Monto Video), 19; galls (@ Shanghai), 100; ginger (Jam.), 27; gum sandarac, 121; honey (@ Jamaica), 14; insect-powder, 5; kola, 2; lemon-juice, 20 pps.; lime citrate, 291 cks.; lime-juice, 141 pns. 68 bds. 5 cks. 13 brls.; lime oil (W.I.), 2 cks. 29 cs.; menthol (@ Japan), 10; musk (@ Colombo), 1 box; opium (@ Calcutta) 25, (@ Genoa) 28; peppermint oil (Jap.), 50; pot. chlor. (Swed.), 10; pot. permang., 62; quicksilver, 14; quinine (@ Amsterdam), 28 cs.; saccharin, 27; senna (@ Colombo), 38; saffron, 5; squills (@ Messina), 25 bgs.; sulphur (@ Sicily), 380 tons 1,120 pkgs.; tamarinds (E.I.), 100; wax, Carnauba, 30 bgs.

### Heavy Chemicals.

The general tone of the heavy-chemical market keeps as lately reported, business being for the most part quiet, and specially so on export account, whilst values remain well maintained, and are largely without change.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is moving off well, and prices are firm. Beekton January-June, 11l. 10s.; Beekton terms, 11l. 5s. to 11l. 6s. 3d.; London and Leith, 11l. 7s. 6d.; and Hull, 11l. 5s. to 11l. 6s. 3d. Exports from Leith last week amounted to 445 tons.

LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES continue in good all-round demand, and prices are firmly maintained with tendency towards advancement. Linseed-cakes, 95-per-cent. pure, 8l. 7s. 6d. to 8l. 12s. 6d. per ton. Oil cakes, 7l. 5s. to 7l. 10s. per ton. Cottonseed cakes, firsts, 4l. 15s. to 4l. 17s. 6d. per ton; and seconds, 4l. 10s. to 4l. 12s. 6d. per ton.

PEARL HARDENING.—In fairly good demand both for home and export at from 60s. to 67s. 6d. per ton, free on rails or free on board in usual casks.

PHOSPHORUS quiet. Yellow, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb.; and red, 2s. per lb.

ALUMINA-PRODUCTS.—Consumptive demand keeps steady, and prices are firm and mostly unchanged. Crystal alum, loose lump, 5l. to 5l. 5s. per ton; lump in tierces, 5l. 5s. to 5l. 10s. per ton; ground in bags, 5l. 12s. 6d. to 5l. 17s. 6d. per ton. Sulphate of alumina, best qualities and pure white practically free of iron, 87s. 6d. to 95s. per ton in ordinary casks, with usual allowances for bags and loose slabs. Aluminous cake, 55s. to 62s. 6d. per ton. Alumino ferric, 57s. 6d. to 65s. per ton, according to quality and condition. Hydrate of alumina, purest and highest strength  $Al_2O_3$ , 11l. 15s. to 12l. 5s. per ton in casks. Hydrate of alumina, special pulp, 12s. 6d. to 15s. per cwt. Hydrate of alumina, purest pulp dried, 37s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. per cwt. in usual casks; ground 38s. to 39s. per cwt. Aluminate of soda, highest strength  $Al_2O_3$ , 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. Carbonate of alumina, 35s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt.

### Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, January 29.

CASTOR OIL.—The market continues quietly steady, and good seconds Calcutta is still held at 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. to 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. per lb. The improvement in the forward position has been fairly maintained, shippers showing very little anxiety to meet the views of buyers. First-pressure French is still obtainable at 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. to 3d., and second-pressure is held for 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per lb.

OIL, TURPENTINE.—After the strong advices of last week, and after having touched 31s. 6d., the position for the moment has become quieter, and 31s. per cwt. would again be taken.

HONEY.—Seventy-seven barrels of pile 3 Peruvian have changed hands at 16s. per cwt., and 32 cases pile 3 Chilian at 18s.

LINSEED OIL.—Continues to maintain a very firm position, and an advance of quite 6d. has been established during the week, sellers now asking 30s. 6d. to 31s. per cwt., according to quality.

BEESWAX.—There is continued scarcity of Chilian beeswax, and for the remaining stocks available 7l. 5s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt. is asked. About 130 sacks have been sold at from 6l. 17s. 6d. to 7l. 15s.

SULPHATE OF COPPER is steady at 19l. to 19l. 5s. per ton, and expected to advance in sympathy with the movement in copper.

TONKA BEANS.—Thirteen cases of frosted Para at auction realised 1s. 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d., and 1 case foxy to black realised 1s. 6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. per lb.

GUM ACACIA.—The position of holders continues firm. There is no quotable change in the values, but the holders show little or no disposition to meet the views of buyers.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—About 40 bags grey Pernambuco have been sold at 52s. 6d. to 53s. per cwt., and Maranham is firmly held at 54s. to 55s. Yellow is quiet with a small sale at 62s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per cwt.

COPAIBA.—Values are unchanged, a small sale ex Bombon having been made at 2s. 1d. for cloudy Maranham.

### American Drug-market.

New York, January 21.

The market continues quiet. Demand is fairly good, but only of a jobbing nature. The chief feature is the keen competition between makers of certain chemicals.

BALSAM COPAIBA is in good demand, and prime Central American goods have sold up to 37c. per lb. Competition is keen however, and supplies are obtainable as low as 34c.

COCAINE is again lower, owing to the cut-throat policy of makers. Bulk is quoted nominally at \$4.60, but \$4.25 will buy.

ERGOT.—Russian has further declined to 39c. and Spanish to 40c. Lack of demand is said to be the cause.

IPECAC.—Rio is very dull and \$2.50 will now buy.

JABORANDI.—Only the finer grades are offering, and values are very firm at 18c. to 20c. per lb.

LITHIUM CARBONATE is now openly quoted at \$1.50 and lower figures yet are expected.

OPIMUM is selling in case-lots at \$3.00.

### Japanese Drug Market.

Yokohama, December 27, 1901.

Owing to the end of the year business in general is quieter, and demand for import articles is of a hand-to-mouth character.

In exports, dry ginger of new crop will appear in the market about the middle of next month, and the price quoted is 14.00 yen per picul; but as this year's crop is estimated at not less than 25,000 piculs, the price may be lower in the near future. Menthol again dearer, and sellers now quote 8.20 yen per catty without any transactions; since my last report about 10,000 catties have been booked on contract, and some 150 cases have also been shipped. The stock is estimated at about 20,000 catties altogether, so that if demand abroad continues the prices may advance still higher. Oil of peppermint is also very firmly held at 2.20 yen, with some holders asking 2.30 yen per catty. During this month transactions of some 600 cases (each 60 lbs. net) have been made at from 1.90 yen to 2.15 yen per catty; stock is estimated at 25,000 catties. Aniseed is lower at 11.00 yen per picul, and for



new crop of agar-agar 85 yen for best and 75.00 yen for medium is asked. Refined camphor remains firm at 1.03 yen for 1-oz. tablets, and 1.04 yen for  $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tablets per lb. Iodine remains unchanged at 3.30 yen per lb. for crude. Potassium iodide is 3.40 yen to 3.50 yen, according to quantity. Resublimed iodine is 5.00 yen per lb., while for iodoform 5.50 yen is wanted. Sulphate of copper is quoted 14.25 per case of 60 kilos., and bleaching-powder (33 per cent.) is held at 5.50 yen per case of 100 lbs.

In import articles, carbolic acid is lifeless; the present quotation is 41 sen per lb. in 112-lb. drums; owing to arrivals of bismuth subnitrate bought at low prices, values have again declined about 20 per cent., and there are sellers at 2.70 yen per lb. Cocaine hydrochloride is unchanged at 11.25 yen per oz. without active demand. Ergot of rye is quoted at 1.25 yen per lb. for Spanish. Condurango has been reduced, and present price is 24 sen per lb.; this is due to arrivals of low cost goods. Santonin is a little lower, holders now quoting 8.70 yen per lb. in face of absence of demand. Saffron is quoted at 18.50 yen per catty. Glycerin has been reduced on account of large arrivals, and holders now ask 31 sen per lb. in 56 lb. tin for 12.60 sp. gr. Quinine is lifeless at 57 sen per oz. to 55 sen per oz. Sulphonal is considerably lower; present quotation is 5.00 yen per lb., with a still lower tendency. Senega is unchanged with sellers at 1.30 to 1.40 yen per lb. Cape aloes is scarce, and holders ask 30 yen per picul. Thymol is quoted 5.60 yen with few sellers.

### Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, January 30:—Condurango is firmer at 87 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. per 100 kilos. Agar-agar is easier, and both refined camphor and menthol are lower.

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NEW YORK, January 30:—Business is tame here. Balsam of copaiba is a strong market at 35c. per lb. Damiana-leaves are higher at 11c. Mandrake-root is scarce at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. Guaiacum has advanced 5c. per lb., cocaine has declined 10c., and wild-cherry bark is scarce at 10c. per lb.

### London Markets.

ACETANILIDE is quoted 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for lowest quantities.

ACID, ACETIC.—B.P. quality (100 per cent.) is quoted 33l. 10s., and 99 per cent. 32l. 10s. per ton.

ACONITE.—*Napellus*, in lots of 10 to 20 cwt., is quoted 32s. 6d. per cwt. delivered London or c.i.f.

ANTIPYRIN in bulk is quoted 5s. 6d. per oz. by one agent.

ARROWROOT.—At auction on Wednesday good St. Vincents in cases sold at 2d. per lb.; ordinary in barrels was held for 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., but good sold at 2d., and fine at 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Ordinary Bermuda sold at 1s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., good being bought in at 1s. 7d.

ASAETIDA.—Since the auctions a fair quantity has been sold, principally for export, at about the valuations. The consignment per s.s. *Afrikaner* from Bunder Abbas has been amended to 621 cases.

BALSAM, CANADA.—A little could probably be had at 2s. 4d. per lb. net on the spot.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—For B.P. quality 1s. 9d. net is quoted for a small lot.

BELLADONNA-ROOT.—A brisk demand is reported from the Continent, one dealer quoting 38s. per cwt., c.i.f. U.K. or delivered London, for a few tons thin root of good fracture. Good green leaves are scarce at from 41s. to 45s. 9d. per cwt.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian are firm at 2s. 8d. per lb., c.i.f., and Chinese are quoted 1s. 10d., c.i.f.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—Old bark (1899 crop) to arrive is quoted 26s. per cwt., c.i.f., and on the spot 24s. to 25s. is wanted, according to quantity.

COPPER SULPHATE is slow of sale at 18l. 15s. per ton, Anchor 19l. to 19l. 10s., Macclesfield 19l. 10s., and Liverpool 18l. 10s. f.o.b.

COUMARIN is offered at 15s. per lb. in quantity.

CREAM OF TARTAR is quiet at 71s. for best white crystals, 73s. for powder; 98-per-cent. powder is 75s. 6d., and 95-per-cent. 73s. per cwt.

CUBES.—Several holders ask 45s. per cwt., although business has been done at slightly under this figure for rather stinky quality.

DANDELION-ROOT.—For whole root 24s. per cwt., c.i.f., is quoted, and for small cut ditto 33s., c.i.f.

ELEMI.—A little of the parcel offered last week has been sold at 100s. per cwt. for fine white.

EPSOM SALTS of foreign make is quoted 82s. 6d. for re-crystallised, and 18l. per ton for dry.

ERGOT.—A report from Leipzig, dated January 25, states that the result of the picking in Russia appears to be behind last year's, but as long as large lots of Spanish and Portuguese ergot are on the market, there is little chance of the condition of Russian improving. Both Russian or Spanish for early delivery are quoted 1s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f.

GALLS.—Chinese are quoted 52s. to 52s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., for near shipment, with buyers at 1s. less; spot is quoted 62s. 6d. nominally.

GAMBIER.—Cubes are slow of sale at from 32s. to 34s. per cwt., c.i.f., according to position.

GLAUBER SALTS is quoted 14l. per ton for refined (B.P. quality), and pure powder 16l. 10s.

GOLDEN SEAL is quoted 2s. 2d. per lb. spot.

GUAIACUM.—Further sales of good glassy block have been made at 1s. 1d. per lb.

GUM ARABIC.—Fair clean yellow Ghatti has sold in quantity at from 15s. 6d. to 19s. 6d. per cwt., and good clean sifted Cawnpore at 25s.

GUM THUS.—For quantities of two tons 9s. per cwt., c.i.f., is quoted.

HYPOPHOSPHITES.—Makers' prices are unchanged, but it is quite understood they are prepared to meet competition on the part of German makers.

IPECACUANHA.—Cartagena is quiet and unchanged at 5s. to 5s. 3d. per lb.

JALAP is quoted 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per lb. net by one holder.

JABORANDI.—From Liverpool a continued active inquiry is reported, the business done including a recent arrival of 6 bales small leaves at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

LITHIA CITRATE.—The present price is 5s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for crystals in 2-cwt. lots up to 5s. 9d. for small wholesale quantities.

LOBELIA is scarce and dear. Loose is offered at 6d. per lb., c.i.f., and there is a small quantity to be had in cases on the spot at this figure.

MORPHINE remains weak at 4s. 5d. per oz. net, but business in second-hands has been done at slightly under for quantity.

NUX VOMICA.—A Calcutta report, dated January 5, states that supplies have been very small, and consequently sales are retarded. There are few sales for ready or forward delivery at 2 10r. to 2 12r. At the former rate shippers are willing to operate, but sellers refuse to accept. Offerings of Coconada kinds are also very small.

OIL, ANISE, STAR.—The effect of the recent failure of a well-known firm of brokers in Mincing Lane has made itself felt in this article, and some quantity is now in course of liquidation. For a parcel of 50 cases 4s. 2d. per lb. has been paid, and a further 20 cases from another source has changed hands at 4s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. spot.

OIL, CASTOR.—Calcutta is slow of sale at 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per lb. for seconds.

OIL, COD LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on January 25 that the official inspection of the Lofoten cod fisheries of now in force, but there is as yet no news as to catch and quality. The weather has for some time been very stormy, and no fish appear to have been caught in the Lofoten districts. From the less important fishing places there are private reports of small fish and lean livers, but official confirmation is wanting. There has been no increase in the quantity of oil produced, and the tone is unaltered, but very firm at 71s. per barrel f.o.b. for raw oil. The exports from Bergen to date amounted to 417 barrels, against 448 barrels at the same time last year. In London, similar reports regarding stormy weather have been received, but as yet little interest is displayed in the new oil. One holder

quotes 68s. 6d. for a 50-barrel parcel of old oil, and 70s. for smaller quantities.

**OIL, LAVENDER.**—There is a prospect of dearer prices for English oil, as the bulk of last year's crop has been practically cleared, and there is very little now obtainable at the low prices which have ruled throughout the season. For genuine quality 25s. per lb. is about the value.

**OPIMUM.**—Quiet and unchanged.

**SMYRNA, January 17.** Owing to the Greek and Armenian New Year the market was quiet for the first part of the week, but on Wednesday one of the principal American buyers came forward and purchased about 100 cases manufacturing qualities (Karassiar type at 7s. 11d. per lb., f.o.b.). The tendency is therefore weaker, and there will probably be a further decline next week. The arrivals to date amount to 3,004 cases, against 3,735 cases at the same time last year.

**CONSTANTINOPLE, January 21.**—Absence of buyers in Smyrna this week has had a quietening effect on holders here, and they would now accept rather lower prices than they were asking last week. At the same time prices are low and winter risks still ahead, so there is naturally no great pressure to sell at present prices. The week's sales amount to 8 cases "druggists" at 7s. 11d. per lb. Market is steady.

**ORANGE-PEEL.**—Further sales of thin bright Maltese strip have been made at 10d. per lb.

**PARALDEHYDE** is about 9d. per lb. lower, one maker now quoting 2s. 6d. per lb. for bottom quantities. Other makers are expected to follow the reduction.

**PHENACETIN.**—One agent quotes 4s. 2d. per lb. in bulk.

**QUICKSILVER** is very firm at the recent reduction—viz., 3l. 15s. per bottle. Mercurials are in good demand.

**QUININE** has again been quiet and practically unchanged. Small sales for March delivery have been made at 1s. 1½d., and May at 1s. 1½d. per oz., and to-day June has sold at 1s. 1½d.

**SACCHARIN.**—In cwt. quantities 50s. per lb. is quoted for 500 or 550 strength.

**SAFFRON.**—There has been a good demand, buyers taking advantage of present low prices. Best Valencia is quoted 23s. per lb. net.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Good Honduras is quoted 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb., spot; and Mexican 4d. c.i.f.

**SHELLAC** has been a dull market with a decline of about 3s. per cwt. in futures, the sales comprising March delivery at 121s. to 122s., May 123s., and June at 124s. to 125s. On the spot fair second TN is quoted 120s. to 121s. net, and genuine firsts 132s. 6d. About 150 cases AA in circle have been sold at 125s.

**SPERMACETH.**—A small parcel of American is offered at 1s. 0½d. net, ex-wharf London.

**SPICES.**—At auction on Wednesday some parcels of cut Cochin  *Ginger* were offered "without reserve," and sold at considerably lower prices: B cut at 60s. 6d. to 62s., a fine lot at 64s.; C cut at 50s. 6d. to 52s. 6d. for plump, at 48s. to 49s. 6d. for fair, at 44s. 6d. to 46s. 6d. for good limes, and at 42s. 6d. to 43s. for common small and ends; D rough sold at 38s. to 39s., washed rough being bought in at 50s. to 52s. per cwt.; Jamaica sold at 40s. to 42s. per cwt. for dull lean. Zanzibar  *Cloves* have been extremely quiet during the past week, but prices are unchanged at 33½d. per lb. for January–March delivery, and 4½d. for March–May. At auction a consignment of fair quality was bought in at 4½d. per lb. Good Japan  *Chillies* were bought in at 45s. per cwt.  *Pimento* lower; a few lots sold, common at 2½d. and fair at 3d. per lb.  *Cinnamon-chips* sold at 2½d. to 2¾d. per lb. for common quality. Black  *Pepper* was bought in at 5½d. per lb. for light Sarawak, and at the same price for Penang. There has been a large business done in Singapore to arrive down to 6d. per lb., but the market has since been firmer with buyers at 6½d. Singapore white was bought in at 10d. per lb. for dull ordinary, and at 11d. to 11½d. per lb. for good coriander kind. For arrival fair Singapore is quoted 10½d. to 10¾d. per lb. Penang is unchanged at 9½d. on the spot, and 10d. to arrive.

**TURMERIC.**—Small sales of mixed bright bulb and finger have been made at 17s. 6d. to 18s. per cwt. Bengal is quoted 16s. 6d.

**VANILLA.**—The supply brought forward on Wednesday was the heaviest on record, and attracted a much larger attendance of buyers than usual. There was a good demand, however, and practically the whole quantity offered, about 2800 tins, was sold. Long lengths being scarce brought rather dearer prices; medium sold well at late rates, but the lower grades were easier. The auction was adjourned on Wednesday at 5 P.M., and was concluded to-day. The following were some of the prices paid:—Fair to good chocolate, 8 to 8½ inches, 22s. 6d.; 7½ to 8 inches, 19s. 6d. to 21s. 6d.; 7 to 7½ inches, 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; 6½ to 7 inches, 10s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.; common dry brown, 4s. to 11s. 6d.; ordinary foxy to fair short, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.; medium, 6s. 9d. to 7s. 6d., and long, 7s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per lb.

Messrs Brookes & Green have issued a report on vanilla, in the course of which they state that the Seychelles crop for 1901, shipped from August to December, totalled "fully double" the heaviest quantity exported from the island in any previous season, it being estimated at about 80 tons. The feature of this season's supply of vanilla from Seychelles is the unprecedented large proportion of "short" beans; medium to good size quality measure from 6 inches to 8 inches, but the consignments landed in London during the past three months have contained about 75 per cent. of very short beans ranging from 3 inches to 5 inches. The result has been that, whilst long-length quality has fairly maintained previous values, the short measurements show a reduction of about 50 per cent. To obtain good plump pods, it is incumbent for planters to see that early in the season the young shoots are thinned by pricking out a quantity of surplus sprouts. In the present case it would seem as though nearly all had been allowed to germinate. This view is somewhat confirmed by recent reports from Seychelles, which advise that the flowering for the next crop is small, possibly due to the weakening of the vines last year—indeed, some of the older plants are reported as seriously exhausted, a very natural result if the above surmise is true. During the past year or two there has been an increasing "doubtful trade" carried on by crystallising Tahiti vanilla, and making it in bundles to represent Bourbon and other better-class qualities, buyers paying twice as much as their actual value, or even more.

**VANILLIN.**—The quotations for a Swiss make are as follows: 1 oz. tins 23s. 3d., 1-lb. tins 22s. 3d., and 7-lb. tins 21s. 9d. per lb.

**WAX, JAPANESE,** is steady at 33s. to 34s. per cwt., spot.

**WILD CHERRY BARK** is extremely scarce at 4½d. per lb. c.i.f.

### The Travancore Cardamoms Estates Company (Limited).

A trading corporation under the above name has been formed, with Mr. S. Iyer, ex-Dewan, as President, Mr. E. R. Iyer as Vice-President, Mr. A. V. Iyer as Secretary. The capital at present is 22,000r., consisting of 200 shares, and the area taken up for cultivation is 290 acres.

### Sulphate of Copper for Greece.

American Consul Jackson, of Patras, has written to his Government confirming his telegram of December 9 (see *C. & D.*, January 11, page 64) announcing the decision of the Currant Bank of Greece to import 500 tons of copper sulphate for the use of the currant industry. Sealed bids will be received for this amount, and other things being equal, the order will be placed with the lowest bidder. The sulphate will be entered free of duty, and the contract will be let probably about the last of February, 1902. The Consul says the order is not a large one, compared with the amount used by the bank in the previous season, but a fair supply is still on hand, and at least 150 tons additional will be supplied by the Greek Powder Manufacturing Company. Of the 6,000 tons copper sulphate imported into Greece last year only 200 tons entered Patras by direct shipment from America, which means scarcely 4 per cent. of the quantity consumed. This experimental shipment, however, was successful in price as well as in quality, and it seems reasonable to suppose that a greater business should follow.

### Senega.

A Minnesota correspondent of the *O. P. & D. Reporter* states that there has been nothing doing in senega in that section of late. All the small lots have gone forward, and the result has been, as already predicted in previous correspondence, that there was no root being held back. There were only a few small lots that came into the market, which were sold on bid, a total of about 2,400 lbs. There is no senega in the hands of the country dealers or diggers. There is one lot held in the Twin Cities. This lot is in strong hands, and the party who holds it stated that



he had tried to sell it at 50c., but not being able to do so had withdrawn it from the market, and is now holding it at 60c.; he has about 4,000 lbs. The senega-market would certainly have gone to 60c., or better, had it not been for one weak dealer in Winnipeg. He imagined he saw a fortune in sight, and bought a lot of 7,000 lbs. at a high figure. Understand the price was 48c. there. He tried to sell it at an advance, but the New York dealers had no orders, and refused to buy. He then offered it to all the New York houses. We understand he sold all of it, excepting 3,000 lbs. This lot he has since offered to six or seven dealers. If they had the nerve to buy it they would have had all the root there is with the exception of the lot held in the Twin Cities. There will be no root dug until June, and it will be along July or August before any fresh root is on the market. If there is any demand whatever there will be a scramble to get what few pounds there is left.

### Ceylon Exports.

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce have issued their annual statement relating to the shipments of produce from Colombo and Galle, compiled as from January 1 to December 31. We give below the cinchona, cardamoms, citronella and cinnamon oil exports:—

—	Cinchona	Cardamoms	Citronella oil	Cinnamon bark and leaf oil
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1901	601,039	559,704	1,430,168	73,493
1900	510,462	537,455	1,409,058	72,904
1899	618,921	493,959	1,478,756	118,778
1898	975,784	531,473	1,355,917	183,312
1897	653,346	532,850	1,182,867	181,536
1896	1,309,560	452,595	1,132,141	132,057
1895	921,085	374,635	1,182,255	78,587
1894	2,497,616	306,317	938,471	88,150
1893	3,571,325	428,210	683,530	140,334
1892	6,793,320	372,510	844,502	106,303

Of the cinchona-exports, Great Britain received 564,614 lbs., and America 25,389 lbs.; of cardamoms we imported 321,331 lbs., India 143,697 lbs., Germany 70,894 lbs., and America 4,481 lbs. We imported 928,908 lbs. of citronella oil last year, America coming second with 292,946 lbs., and France third with 172,984 lbs.

### Cottonseed Oil Dispute.

At the Hull County Court on January 24, Judge Raikes, K.C., heard an action in which the question at issue was whether an award made in an arbitration (conducted under the terms of the Oil Trade Association's contract) relative to the settling price of undelivered cotton oil should be upheld. The plaintiffs were Messrs. Plimpton & Smith, the defendants being Messrs. H. F. and Lee Smith & Co. Mr. Stuart explained on behalf of the plaintiffs that the arbitrators, Mr. Tall and Mr. B. Barton, being unable to agree, called in Mr. T. Hall Sissons as umpire, who fixed the settling price, and on his award this claim was made. Dr. Aske, for the defendants, questioned whether they were bound by this arbitration. He argued that the arbitrators had not the power to appoint an umpire. His Honour remarked that the award was only signed by the umpire. Under the rules of the contract a third arbitrator should have been appointed, and not an umpire, and then the award would have been signed by two out of the three arbitrators. Dr. Aske said that was his objection. Mr. Stuart quoted the case of *Whitmore v. Smith* (an appeal from the Court of Exchequer), 1861, and after reading it his Honour held that the award was good, and he was prepared to give judgment on this point. Mr. Stuart said this was a case of great importance as thousands of pounds were dealt with under such contracts. His Honour held that the rules of the contract and its form were at variance, and instead of fighting this case they should be altered and amended. The points raised were interesting and academic, and might be settled by the House of Lords at the cost of 2,000l. or 3,000l. The rules would have to be redrafted by a lawyer. He would rather not give a decision. After further conversation it was decided that the case should proceed, and after hearing evidence his Honour, in giving judgment for the plaintiffs, said that in his opinion the price fixed by the arbitrator was a fair one, and the plaintiffs were entitled to recover. He did not think that in the circumstances arbitration was a proper way of settling the matter.

### The American Chemical Market in 1901.

The increased domestic production coupled with the high tariff has resulted in a marked fall in imports of heavy chemicals, especially of the soda compounds, bleaching-powder, and chlorate of potash. Prices in most lines, however, were more satisfactory than in 1900. The market for domestic alkali was particularly strong in the last half of the year, owing to comparatively small stocks and the destruction by fire of a large plant in the Middle

West. Caustic soda, besides finding a steady sale among glass-makers, has shown an improved demand from mercerised goods manufacturers. Chlorate of potash found a large sale with gunpowder makers. There was a large decrease in imports on account of increased domestic production. Prices were very weak, however, owing to aggressive competition. Glass makers have been large buyers of arsenic at lower prices than the previous year. The consumption of cyanide of potash has been large, owing partly to the erection of new gold recovery plants. Prices, however, were lower, owing to the heavy production in England and Germany, and the large accumulation of stocks as a result of the continued small consumption in the Transvaal. Prices of sulphuric acid were kept at a satisfactory level, being chiefly controlled in the east by the General Chemical Company. The exports of copper sulphate have largely increased, Italy receiving 280,000,000 lbs. out of a total of 37,300,000 lbs. for the eleven months ending November, 1901. Of brimstone 160,000 tons, chiefly best unmixed seconds, were imported, or 7,000 tons less than in 1900. The high prices and increased consumption of pyrites by acid makers were responsible for the decrease.

### Pharmaceutical Society of Trinidad.

The members of this Society dined together at the Ice House, Trinidad, on the evening of January 9, amongst those present being Messrs. A. J. Taitt, President, L. O. Inniss (Secretary and Treasurer), W. Mills, Melville Murray, P. A. Ramsay, A. Soublette, E. C. Aerstein, F. L. Ronalds, Alfred Richards, J. C. Poyer, E. T. Mitchell, G. D. Dieffenhaller, Andrew Gransaul, A. S. Larodé, and V. W. Laurence. After an excellent dinner the King was toasted, and Mr. Walter Mills, in giving the toast of the Society, called attention to the trend of public opinion in the Mother Country in regard to the dispensing of prescriptions. He was followed by Mr. Inniss, who reviewed the history of the Society since its foundation in 1881, with Mr. W. C. Ross as President. During its existence it has done good work for the drug-trade of the island, especially in regard to the Customs regulations of 1886, respecting spirituous medicines, and the Medical Ordinance of 1887, which would have been bad for the druggists had not the Society intervened. Since that year Mr. Inniss has been Secretary. In 1896 regular monthly meetings were instituted. By the repeated representations of the Society to the Medical Board many violations of the rights of druggists by unqualified persons have been put a stop to, the tone of the examinations has been raised, and when the Collector of Customs made another attempt to levy spirit-duty upon tinctures and other spirituous medicinal compounds the Society resisted, and succeeded in obtaining a very important concession from the Council—viz., that medicinal tinctures and other medicinal compounds containing alcohol be passed at 5s. per gal. duty, instead of 15s. as proposed by the Collector. In the following year the Society was incorporated, and another Medical Ordinance gave trouble, but through the efforts of the officers the clauses relating to druggists were submitted to the Society for consideration, and most of their suggestions were adopted. Latterly a much more cordial feeling has arisen between the Pharmaceutical Society and the Medical Board. During the past year a fair commencement to the collection of native medicinal plants had been made. The officers elected for the year 1902 are Messrs. A. J. Taitt (President), A. E. Boland (Vice-President), L. O. Inniss (Secretary and Treasurer).

### Look Out for Mr. Islip.

As we go to press Messrs. Cooper & Co., South Kensington, telephone to us that "J. Islip," 28 Redgrave Road, Putney, has sent them an order by post for various things which they have not supplied, for he is the man who some time ago was imprisoned for obtaining goods under false pretences. London subscribers should not supply the man with goods unless they are paid for in hard cash.

THE HEADING to the advertisement on page 136 of our Winter Issue should have been "Modern Pharmaceutical Preparations of Farbwerke vorm. Meister, Lucius & Brining," Hoechst o. M. The word "limited," accidentally placed after the firm's name, was quite inapplicable in the case of the Hoechst firm.

A NEW ANTISEPTIC.—At the last meeting of the Academy of Medicine at Rome, Professor Durante read a paper on experiments made by him in his clinic with "tacciolo," a new antiseptic discovered by Professor Paterno. The experiments, he said, demonstrated the great efficacy of tacciolo as an antiseptic, and proved it to be far superior to sublimate of mercury.

CHEMIST'S STRANGE PLIGHT.—The chemist's shop of Mr. M. E. Price (28), of Senghenydd (Glamorganshire), having been closed for a week without anyone knowing what had become of the proprietor, it was resolved on Wednesday to effect an entry into the premises, and on this being done Mr. Price was found sitting before the fire in a very exhausted state. Medical aid was summoned, but his condition was so precarious that the hopes entertained of his recovery are not very strong.

## Correspondence.

### Our Winter Issue.

SIR,—We have been complimented on our two-page advertisement which appeared in your special issue of January 25 and, though the writer is actually responsible for the design and matter generally, you always give such care to our wishes and so thoroughly grasp the intention, that we feel part of the credit is due to yourself, and we gladly, therefore, take this opportunity of tendering you our thanks. We are, as you know, pretty large advertisers, but from no journal do we trace better results at all times than from *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*.

Yours faithfully,

HENRY E. STEVENSON, Director  
(For Baiss Brothers & Stevenson, Limited).

4 Jewry Street, E.C., January 29.

### Apprenticeship.

"This gossip."

"I have heard nothing of it. Tell me the gist of it, pray."

"Tell you, ma'am? Not I. What the gossip is, no matter; what really is, you know. Set facts right, and the scandal will right itself."

—Hardy.

SIR,—I am pressed on many sides to study the apprenticeship-question and become a useful member of society. Really, the humour one finds in pharmaceutical politics is prodigious.

There is no apprenticeship-question. There will soon be no apprentices. One question dominates and permeates us—unqualified practice. Set that right, and the consequent scandals will remedy themselves. As a subsidiary or dependent matter, that of apprenticeship is important, and affects chemists directly. But it will pass the wit of man to point out a remedy which does not involve settling the all-important question. Therefore, why do we tinker and mess? Why not grasp the nettle—close with unqualified practice? We may talk and talk, but the fact of unqualified persons being able to practise or otherwise will determine the future of the drug-trade.

Chemists have the remedy in themselves. Become members of the Pharmaceutical Society. Insist that this Society shall exist for its members. Demand efficiency in all its affairs. Grandmotherly management of the affairs of chemists is altogether discredited: but a sane assertiveness will produce results. Yours faithfully,

Blackburn, January 29.

R. LORD GIFFORD.

### What is Lapis Infernalis?

SIR,—“Xrayser” has some interesting notes in your issue of to-day on the latest instalment of the Oxford English Dictionary, but he omits to notice the definition therein given of “lapis infernalis” as lunar caustic. I venture to think the definition wrong, though it is true that under “Infernal” in a previous section quotations are given from Phillips (1706) and Reid (1758) which seem to justify it; and that, according to Squire, lunar caustic has this name assigned to it in several continental Pharmacopœias. In England at the present day, however, so far as my experience goes, “lapis infernalis” signifies caustic potash, and it has this meaning in every Dispensatory and recipe-book I possess (in which the name occurs), from Culpeper (1654) to Phillips’s “Translation of the Pharmacopœia Londinensis” (1851). It would be interesting to know what is the opinion of the trade generally on this point.

Yours, &c.,

Epworth, January 25.

C. C. BELL.

### “The Wrong Button.”

SIR,—As a chemist who for many years has dealt in photographic goods in connection with the drug-business, I have read your article, entitled “The Wrong Button,” with a considerable amount of interest. I have had business-relations with the Eastman’s Material Company since their address was 115 Oxford Street, London, and my experience goes to prove that if the patent-medicine manufacturers and others had, in the past, controlled wholesale houses and

retailers, in the supply and up-keeping of prices, in the same manner in which the Kodak Company have, the average chemist would not have been in the unfortunate position that he is to-day in respect to patent medicines and other proprietary articles. In buying goods from them I have always had the comfortable feeling that, in selling them, I was sure of a fair margin of profit, and that I was not being undersold by some firm of self-called cash chemists. A pleasing result of their protection of prices was a short time ago instanced in Liverpool. An American gentleman went into a shop, and asked the price of a No. 4 cartridge kodak. The proprietor said 5*l.* 5*s.* The American then said, “And how much less?” and the answer was, “Nothing.” The gentleman replied, “I guess I’ll have to try elsewhere.” The proprietor of the shop asked him if his shop was the first one at which he had called, and on ascertaining that it was, said, “If you find you cannot get it for less than the price stated, do you mind coming back and purchasing it from me?” The American, apparently struck by the fairness of the request, replied heartily, “I will.” Considerably later in the day he tramped wearily into the shop, saying, “I’ve come to acknowledge my defeat. I’ve tried numbers of places, but cannot get it for less than you asked. I’ll buy it from you.”

I have other reasons for welcoming the attitude of Kodak (Limited). When a certain firm was cutting prices of Kodak goods, and several wholesale houses were approached in order to trace from where the firm obtained its supplies, instead of all the help possible being rendered obstacles were actually thrown in the way. I, and others who dealt in Kodak goods and had been affected by this cutting, have reason to thank the company for the time and money expended in securing to us that fair profit which the mere wholesaler never would, nor did, attempt to secure for us. There are other advantages to the dealer in trading direct with the manufacturer. He is dealing with one who is willing to help him in every way possible to create a trade in his particular manufactures. There is a closer personal business relationship. He is better supplied with advertising-matter. If he makes a mistake in ordering it is rectified if he mentions it within a reasonable time. There are also many other valuable favours he can obtain when dealing direct. Lastly, and most important, he can obtain supplies which are fresh. In regard to inconvenience, that is simply a nonentity, as everything (except plates alone under 5*l.* worth) is sent out carriage paid, and there is no waiting until the wholesale drug-house, if out of stock, has obtained from the very same source from which we can draw our supplies. I take it that the nearer approach of certain manufacturers to the retailer is one of the revenges of time on those manufacturers and wholesalers who took no interest whatever in the retailer except as a means of bringing in mere monetary profit. It behoves the retailer of to-day to support only those who are willing to work for and with him in keeping up to advertised prices. If a manufacturer values his productions at certain prices and advertises them as being for sale at such prices, what moral right have cutting firms to step in and take away from the ordinary dealer that profit which is fixed as being only a fair remuneration?

Yours, &c.,

A CHEMIST AND PHOTOFACITOR. (133/12)

SIR,—I think if all chemists dealing in “Kodak” goods were to do as we are doing in this town—viz., send a vigorous protest against the new conditions which Kodak propose to bring in—it would at any rate show our united disapproval of such an unfair, unbusinesslike, and un-English mode of procedure, and also obtain some concessions on their part. I am writing from a town where there are some twelve or so dealers (mostly chemists), who are all thoroughly in unison in this matter, and I believe it is the general opinion of the trade at large. It seems to me that this protest might be successfully arranged through the local Associations (where any), as we are doing here, and should be done at once.

Yours truly,

BROMIDE. (130/23)

SIR,—One point seems to have escaped notice in relation to Kodak’s regulations. It is at the Kodak Company’s wish to alter the patent laws of this country to suit their own pockets. As I understand it, the patent laws grant a



monopoly for a certain term of years as a reward for new inventions, but to prevent stagnation and induce healthy competition very properly limit the period of protection. I believe these laws are more or less universal. The Kodak Company are trying by all means in their power—and they seem somewhat varied—to extend this protection beyond its legal limit and to crush competition.

Yours faithfully,

January 21.

P. (128/66.)

### Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists Diary"—Trade Law or Pharmacy Law Sections.

123/49. *Caution*.—The use of spirit of chloroform as a flavouring-agent in infinitesimal quantity has not been regarded as a requirement for a poison-label. On this point see the paragraph "Preparations of Poisons," page 272 of THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902.

126/37. *Suez*.—The Post Office does not interfere with the bona-fide distribution by traders of circulars from house to house, even though they bear the names and addresses of the occupants. The conveyance of such circulars from town to town and delivery thereat is a different matter.

121/18. *J. W. S.* sends us about fifty labels which he uses, and we find the following instances of liability amongst them: neuralgia-pills to be taken "until relieved"; cough-linctus to be taken "when the cough [is] troublesome"; neuralgic mixture stated on handbill to be "prepared from a celebrated recipe, the efficacy of which has been thoroughly tested"; compound menthol snuff stated on label to be "for headache, neuralgia, and colds"; and a label for Erasmus Wilson's hair-wash stated to "remove one of the most frequent causes of heaviness and headache." The following we consider doubtful: universal embrocation "invaluable to athletes," and liquid dentifrice having "antiseptic properties which prevent decay." These two should be submitted to Somerset House for opinion.

121/52. *Nemo*.—The cash-book of a business belongs to the person who has disposed of the business. If you take action against your predecessor for misrepresentation he may be compelled by the Court to produce the cash-book, but you cannot otherwise demand it.

132/18. *C. G. W.*—A toilet-preparation is not liable to duty because it allays shaving-irritation and is an "antiseptic emollient."

133/52. *Agreement*.—See the paragraph on this matter in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 261. You do not give us sufficient information regarding the terms of your agreement to enable us to advise you as to legal proceedings, but in a matter of right of way belonging to you you have right of action without the agreement.

121/20. *J. E. W.*—If you refer to the pharmacy-law section in our DIARY you will find all aspects of the wholesale druggist question dealt with more fully than we can possibly spare space for here.

126/31. *Antipyrin*.—Your distilled extract of witch-hazel label makes the preparation liable to duty because it says the extract "is one of the most valuable domestic medicines ever discovered," and in the directions for use it is stated to be used "for burns, scalds, cuts, bruises, sprains, chafings, bites or stings of insects, chilblains, ulcerations, varicose veins, piles, eczema, &c.," "for sore or weak eyes," "for sore throat," and "for hæmorrhages from the lungs and stomach." The reason why hazeline is unstamped is that it is not recommended to the public in involving terms.

237/27. *South American Subscriber*.—We have received from an Egyptian correspondent the following particulars regarding the practice of dentistry in Egypt:—

Every medical man, veterinary surgeon, pharmacist, and dentist practising or intending to practise in Egypt must present

his diploma at the office of the sanitary administration, and receive from them a permit, at the same time his name is published in the official journal. The fee for registration is purely nominal, and only really means the cost of the stamped paper on which the demand is made. The diploma of any State school is recognised. There is a school for medicine, veterinary medicine and pharmacy in Cairo, but no school for dentistry. In Cairo there are now in practice two English dentists, three American dentists, and several Germans with American diplomas. The English firm has been established for many years, and has a lot of capital behind it, and is, in fact, though not by appointment, the dental practitioner for the army of occupation. In Alexandria there is Dr. Love, American dentist, long established and in excellent repute, and an English dentist, formerly assistant to Dr. Love, who is also in good practice, a number of Syrians, Jews, and Germans, who all style themselves doctors. One L.D.S. Eng. left Alexandria some three years ago after a 'two years' trial. Cairo prices are those of first-class dentists in England. There is a good opening for season work (December, January, February, March and April), in Luxor and Assouan for a young enterprising dentist. There is a resident doctor in each of these places for season work. I may add that rentals in Cairo and other European quarters run very high.

126/24. *R. C.* puts the following case:—"A asks B for quotation of goods. A sends to B for parcel of goods. A then fourteen days after sends to B for more goods 'as quoted.' Since then the price has risen. B sends A the goods at an advanced price with invoice at bigger price. A makes no remark, but two months afterwards in settling the account deducts difference in price. Can he do this?" [Yes. The forwarding of the goods was acceptance of the order, and, although it would have been but fair for A to have on receipt of invoice advised B that he would not pay the higher rate, he was not compelled to do so.]

### Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

123/46. *Sefton*.—We have no personal knowledge of the Cure for Rupture to which you refer, and think you would be better advised to reserve your money for consulting a surgeon of repute who has special knowledge of the treatment of hernia. As a pharmacist you should be able to appreciate the fact that a liniment for hernia is a ridiculous application for healing the ruptured internal tissues, and this is an index to the rest of the treatment advertised.

134/16. *R. C.*—When solution of ammonium carbonate is added to solution of strychnine, crystals of strychnine are precipitated.

127/28. *P. V. C.*—The treatment of obesity with thyroid gland varies in results, and should not be undertaken without medical advice.

132/59. *Molar (Australia)*.—There is nothing that can safely be injected along with cocaine hydrochloride which will prevent the action upon the heart. It is advisable in dental cases before administering the injection, to give the patient a 1-dr. dose of aromatic spirit of ammonia, and to keep another dose ready in the event of faintness coming over the patient during the operation. Not more than 1 gr. should be injected at a time.

131/12. *Micrometer*.—Classes on brewing are held in the University of Birmingham, which grants a degree in that department. You should get the syllabus, and gather what hints you can from it. Also see the syllabus of the Technological Examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute, Gresham Street, London, E.O., which any bookseller can get for you, or you can get it from the Institute by post for 9d. You will be able to judge from that the scope of the work required for a brewer's chemist and bacteriologist.

133/53. *P. D.*—There is a postal system of preparing for the Minor, carried on in connection with the Westminster College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.

134/18. *A. S.*—Consult the 1902 DIARY for names of goitre specialists.

30/4. *Mikado*.—We do not know what is mixed with grain or meal to attract pheasants to the preserves; we always thought the food itself was a sufficient attraction.

119/51. *Digi*.—Your inquiry is too vague for us to be able to give a definite answer. Another time send us the prescription or a photograph of it.

134/10. *Omega*.—Muscarine is a very poisonous alkaloid occurring together with neurine in the fly agaric (*Agaricus muscarius*), and in putrefying flesh. The formula ascribed to it is  $C_6H_{15}NO_2$ . It acts as a narcotic poison, antagonistic to atropine. We know of no use for it apart from its employment for physiological experiments.

115/45. *W. R. T.*—Cleaning Sponges.—First wash the sponges well, then dip in a solution consisting of 1 oz. potassium permanganate and 2 oz. of hydrochloric acid, and 8 gals. of water. Press out as much of the liquid as possible and put the sponges into a bath of 1 lb. of hyposulphite of soda in 8 gals. of water, and well wash, the final bath to be one containing 1 oz. potassium carbonate and 1 oz. glycerin in 1 gal. of water. Sulphurous acid may be used in place of the "hypo" bath.

157/57. *E. S. & Co.*—*La Semaine Pharmaceutique* is published at 66 rue de Rivoli, Paris.

126/41. *J. P.*—There is nothing the matter with the Irish moss mucilage you forward. Your customer is probably trying to avoid payment, and inventing excuses.

126/39. *W. J. B.*—Lethal Chamber for cats.—There is nothing of this nature on sale as far as we are aware. An article in the *C. & D.*, September 28, 1901, page 534, contains an illustration of a box for use in poisoning cats, which may give you an idea of a suitable apparatus.

127/25. *Qualified*.—Our rule is not to publish formulæ in imitation of proprietary articles.

128/44. *W. H. B.*—Intensifying Negatives.—There are nine formulæ for intensifiers in the 1902 DIARY, and whilst none of them come under Part I. of the poison schedule, several require labelling poison, and none can be truthfully designated non-poisonous.

121/43. *Nomen*.—The DIARY for 1900 contains thirty-seven formulæ for developers, and there are many in the current DIARY. Will you please refer to these?

124/61. *A. & Co.*—Sodii sulphas acidus, acid sodium sulphate, or sodium bisulphate, is no doubt intended in prescription you send. In the *C. & D.*, February 16, 1901, page 285, you will see an account of the use of sodium bisulphate for destroying typhoid germs in drinking-water.

129/45. *H. H.*—As glycer. pepsinæ is the nearest B.P. thing to liq. pepsin., you may dispense it when no maker is specified. Mark the prescription to that effect.

129/71. *Subscriber*.—These columns are not intended to teach people arithmetic, but we may take pity upon you and inform you that with an article which costs 8d., and sells at 1s., there is 50 per cent. profit on the outlay, and 33½ per cent. of the return is profit. The rules of simple proportion apply in this case.

131/25. *S. C. N.*—The quantity of castor oil in the inseparable brilliantine ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 76) should be 2 oz. If a more oleaceous article is wanted, stronger alcohol should be used.

### Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

134/65. Name of a dealer in second-hand wine-bottles.

134/26. Makers of or agents for Kuna pine solid.

124/39. Makers of imitation-parchment bags.

134/46. Address of makers of Little's oriental balm.

134/52. Present address of makers of "Spanish herbal cigarettes."

133/57. "Renardine" for driving rabbits out of holes: where obtainable?

126/19. What is "lemoluerein" (a substitute for annatto) and is it harmless?

28/29. Where can "corpolia" (or similar title), for restoring silk hats, be obtained?

128/57. "Orcherdine" said to be a substitute for musk: who makes or where obtainable?

125/5. Makers of fancy cards for fixing small bottles of perfumes to, and fancy boxes for packing perfumery.

## Coming Events.

Notices of forthcoming meetings are inserted in this section free of charge. Secretaries should send such notices to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., so that they may be received not later than Wednesday of the week of publication: if later, by telegram to "Chemicus London."

### Monday, February 3.

*Society of Chemical Industry* (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. Dr. A. Dupré, on "The Explosion of Potassium Chlorate by Heat," and Dr. F. Clowes, on "The New Photometer and Standard Pentane Burner for Gas-testing."

*School of Pharmacy of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain*. Annual dinner in the Royal Venetian Chamber of the Holborn Restaurant, at 7 P.M., Professor J. Reynolds Green in the chair.

### Wednesday, February 5.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain*, 17 Bloomsbury Square, at 11 A.M. Council meeting.

*Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland*, 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 P.M. Council meeting.

### Thursday, February 6.

*Chemical Society*, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 P.M. The following papers will be communicated:—"An Investigation into the Composition of Brittle Platinum," by Mr. W. H. Hartley; "Conversion of  $\alpha$ -hydroxycamphene into  $\beta$ -halogen Derivatives of Camphor," by Dr. M. O. Forster; "Tetrazoline," Part 2, by Messrs. S. Ruhemann and H. E. Stapleton; "The Solubilities of the Calcium Salts of the Acids of the Acetic-acid series," and "The Equilibrium between a Solid and its Saturated Solution at Various Temperatures," by Mr. J. S. Lumsden; "The Influence of Temperature on Association in Benzene Solution, and the Value of the Molecular Rise of Boiling-point for Benzene at Different Temperatures," by Mr. W. R. Innes; "The Magnetic Rotation of Ring Compounds: Camphor, Limonene, Carvene, Pinene, and Some of Their Derivatives," by Dr. W. H. Perkin, sen., F.R.S.; "Polymerisation Products from Diazoacetic Ester," by Mr. O. Silberrad.

*Röntgen Society*, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8.30 P.M. Mr. E. W. H. Shenton on "A System of Radiography."

*Midland Pharmaceutical Association*, Birmingham. Lecture by Dr. Hall-Edwards on "Radiography."

*Chemists' Assistants' Association*, 73 Newman Street, Oxford Street, W., at 9 P.M. Impromptu discussion.

### Friday, February 7.

*Royal Institution of Great Britain*, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 P.M. Professor E. Ray Lankester on "The New Mammal from Central Africa and other Giraffe-like Animals."

THE Junior Pharmacy Ball will take place on February 26. Tickets can be obtained from Mr. P. Triek, Salisbury House, London Wall, E.C., Hon. Secretary.

THE Wholesale Chemists' and Druggists' Cricket Championship second annual concert will take place at the Holborn Town Hall on February 14. During the interval the silver challenge cup will be presented to the winners for 1901—the Wellcome C.C. Tickets, 1s. each, may be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. Sibley, 64 Park Street, Southwark, S.E.



## Westminster Wisdom.

(By our Parliamentary Correspondent.)

### THE POISONS COMMITTEE.

I am informed that the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into what alterations may be expedient in Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, have arranged to hold their next meetings on February 6, 7, and 8, and that the witnesses who are expected to give evidence will include Mr. Le Neve Foster, Dr. Selby Church, Dr. W. L. Muir, Mr. Richard Bremridge (Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society), Mr. Rutherford Hill, Mr. Dobbs, Dr. Voelcker, Mr. J. Bowen Jones, and Mr. A. F. Giles (Secretary of the Grocers' Federation). *A propos* of this I have been furnished with an interesting statement of one side of the question by a gentleman who is well entitled to express an opinion and has special means of knowing what is going on before the Committee. It is as follows:—

"The inquiry of the Committee has brought ont a great many interesting points. For instance, in the law of master and servant a master is responsible for the doings of his employé. But for reasons best known to themselves the Pharmaceutical Society chose to prosecute the employé who sold the goods for a breach of the Act when such an event occurred. After much litigation they succeeded in this point in England, and the High Courts in Scotland, following the English precedent, permitted the same procedure. It therefore appears that the pharmacists have made a law unto themselves, and that in this trade alone a master is not responsible for a breach of the Act by his employé. In some cases, however, the employer cannot escape—as, for instance, in what are called in Scotland 'doctors' shops.' In the case of Glasgow east of High Street, in an area inhabited by at least one-third of the whole population, it is believed there are not more than seven or eight shops occupied by qualified pharmacists. All the drug-trade otherwise is done in the shops of medical practitioners, and these number about 250. In these shops, of course, it is impossible to employ a highly-paid and qualified pharmacist. If a slight breach of the Act occurs in the doctor's absence—as when, for instance, a customer comes in *in extremis* and asks for a little landanum, and the medicine is sold by the assistant—then the assistant is liable to punishment, but, as it happened recently, the doctor does not escape. The Pharmaceutical Society prosecuted some half-dozen such cases in Glasgow, and, having succeeded in the prosecution, they gave information to the General Medical Council. Forthwith the doctors were summoned before the Council as having been guilty of what is termed 'infamous conduct.' Particulars appeared in the newspapers, with the names of the doctors in question, but without a full explanation. The simple fact was announced that they had been before the General Medical Council, and had been found guilty of 'infamous conduct.' This is a state of things which obviously is not to be submitted to in silence, and so Dr. W. L. Muir, of Glasgow, has been deputed on behalf of the Eastern Medical Society of Glasgow, which numbers about 150 members, and the Poor-law Medical Association of Scotland, to give evidence on these points. The terms of the remit to the Committee are to consider the poison schedules of the Act of 1868, and ascertain whether circumstances that have occurred since then make the schedules as they now stand suitable for the present time. The Committee are asked to report what addition or other changes should be made, and chiefly they are asked to say whether, in their opinion, another schedule should be added to the Act, and what should be placed in that schedule. This is in view of the suggestion that the third schedule should contain articles that are used in the arts and in commerce, as well as in agriculture and horticulture, such as sheep-dips, colours and paints whether for the decoration of houses or for the use of artists, photographic materials, and acids of sorts which are used very largely for manufacturing-purposes; and it will be for the Committee to decide whether the sale of these shall be con-

ducted upon ordinary commercial principles. In relation to other poisons it will be considered whether it is simply enough for the public protection that these should be sold under regulations drawn up by the Pharmaceutical Society, or whether there should be broad regulations affecting everybody and adjusted without dependence upon the individual who happens to make the particular sale. Some persons have formed the opinion that, after all, the danger of poisoning which may result from the sale of many of the above-mentioned articles is just as great whether the article is sold by a lad in an ironmonger's shop or seedsman's warehouse, or by a highly qualified and highly paid man in the drug-store near by."

### SUGAR-TESTING STATIONS.

From information supplied by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it appears that there are four sugar-testing stations in England and three in Scotland. The initial cost for plant, &c., has been about 500/., and there is a small annual charge, representing part of the pay of the officers employed in testing. It has not been found necessary as yet to establish a testing-station for sugar in Ireland. No unrefined sugar has been imported into that country from abroad, and stations are only necessary in respect to that kind.

### THE SUPPLY OF LYMPH.

Since my last letter some interesting statements have been made in the House of Commons in regard to the supply of lymph for vaccination-purposes. Mr. Bartley put a question to the President of the Local Government Board as to whether medical practitioners are now able to purchase Government lymph for those who are prepared to pay for vaccination, or whether they have to obtain it as they can, chiefly from abroad. In view of the interest felt in the subject at present, I give Mr. Long's answer, and what arose out of it, fully:—

Mr. Long replied: The statutory duty of the Local Government Board as regards the supply of glycerinated calf-lymph is limited to supplying it to public vaccinators for purposes of primary vaccination only, and their lymph establishment was formed with this object. Arrangements were, however, made to extend the supply so as to enable lymph to be provided for use by these officers in revaccinations, and a very large amount has been supplied for this purpose. The organisation of the establishment is not such as would enable me to furnish lymph to private medical practitioners.

Mr. Bartley: May I ask whether the right honourable gentleman will take into consideration, in view of the present state of affairs, whether this lymph cannot be supplied to private practitioners all over the country, so that there might be a guarantee that it is really efficient?

Mr. Long: It would be a very serious thing to suggest that the lymph should be supplied gratis to—

Mr. Bartley: I did not mean gratis.

Mr. Long: Well, or for sale to private practitioners; but there is no necessity for it. I have ascertained that there is ample glycerinated lymph outside that which is supplied by the Government departments.

Mr. Bartley: Is it a fact that nearly all the lymph obtained outside comes from abroad?

Mr. Long: Some of it comes from Paris, but there are other sources of supply, and I have no doubt that there is at the present time an abundant supply of lymph on the market.

Dr. Amhrose: May I ask whether the greater quantity of the lymph to be got outside is inefficient?

Mr. Long: I have reason to believe that most of it is efficient. Perhaps the lymph supplied by the Local Government Board is stronger, but I do not think—judging from my own experience—that the outside lymph is less efficient.

Mr. Bartley subsequently put a general question about the progress of revaccination to which Mr. Long replied as follows:—I am not at present in a position to give any estimate of the extra number of vaccinations and revaccinations performed during the present epidemic of smallpox. The returns as to the vaccination of infants born in 1901 and as to revaccinations by public vaccinators will be received in due course, but there is no record of revaccinations performed by private medical practitioners. I have, however, reason to believe that there has been a very large number of vaccinations in the last few months in London and the neighbourhood. Since the beginning of September I have caused lymph to be issued to public vaccinators for 480,000 vaccinations, that is about 300,000 in excess of the normal supply for this period. A very considerable portion of the excess has been issued to the metropolis.

Subsequently Mr. Bartley suggested that, considering the



difficultly private practitioners have in obtaining calf-lymph as reliable as that issued to the public vaccinators, the Local Government Board should extend its lymph department.

Mr. Long replied: The establishment has been very nearly doubled within the last few weeks, and it is impossible at present to supply all that is required for primary vaccination. To supply private practitioners other than public vaccinators would, I think, tax the resources of the establishment beyond its powers, but we are doing everything we possibly can, and if we can possibly add to the supply we shall do it.

Another question on the subject was put by Mr. Corrie Grant. It was in the following terms: Whether the President of the Local Government Board can state the original sources of the vaccine-lymph supplied by the Government; is any derived from the inoculation of small-pox on animals; whether a pure culture of the organism of vaccinia could be supplied in place of lymph; whether the strength of the virus can be standardised so as to measure the dose administered; whether the Government guarantee the purity and innocuity of the lymph they supply; and whether the Government will take steps to secure the control and supervision of all lymph used in this country?

Mr. Long replied: The lymph supplied by the Government is derived from calves which have been vaccinated with lymph from other calves, and is not obtained by inoculating animals with smallpox. The reply to the third and fourth questions is in the negative. The Government give no guarantee, but they use every effort to secure that their lymph shall be free from undesirable organisms. As at present advised, I do not propose to ask for power to control the lymph supplied from other sources.

In this connection I may add that quite a number of members have been revaccinated since Parliament met. The other day Mr. Hozier, one of the Scotch members, was wearing a red ribbon and keeping aloof from his fellows, and now Mr. Robert Spencer, the heir of Earl Spencer, has his left arm in a sling.

#### THE CURE OF CANCER.

A proposal that a Royal Commission should be appointed to consider this question came before the House of Commons on January 24, in the form of an inquiry, at the instance of Mr. Arthur Lee.

Dr. Farquharson, before the question was answered, asked the First Lord of the Treasury: Whether his attention had been directed to a scheme, backed up by the leaders of the medical profession, for "organised research on cancer," and whether he will wait till this is formulated before committing himself to the costly and dilatory process of a Royal Commission?

Mr. Balfour replied as follows: In answer to the last question, I have to say that my attention has been called to the passage in a newspaper to which the honourable member refers. I have no other information as to the progress which this experiment in organisation is making. I am sure I wish it all success. As regards the question put on the paper, I entirely agree with my honourable friend as to the great importance of this subject of the medical investigation, but I confess my instinct is not in favour of attempting to deal with it by means of a Royal Commission. I do not think the cases of cancer and tuberculosis are at all parallel. I will not develop my reasons for holding that opinion, but I think there is no parallel, and I also think the number of great scientific discoveries which have been made by Royal Commissions has been very limited, and that it would be probably better to leave this subject in the hands of the medical profession in all countries whose attention is, and has been for some years past, directed towards it. Of course, if those competent to speak for the medical profession take a different view they are much more qualified to judge than I am, and if their views are brought before the Government they will receive full consideration.

Mr. Arthur Lee: Will the right honourable gentleman consider the advisability of advising a substantial grant, in view of the fact that there is no fund available for the purpose?

Mr. Balfour: The question of the honourable member raises a very large issue, and I should not like to touch upon it at the present time. The amount of the Government money given to experiment in this country is not very large,

but whether it should be increased is a question that I cannot answer on the spur of the moment. It requires careful consideration. I may add that there has been no application up to the present time for a grant in order to carry out this particular object.

#### PROSPECTS OF MIDWIVES BILL.

The promoters of the Bill for the registration of midwives and the regulation of their practice have been exceptionally fortunate in securing the first place on Wednesday, February 26. At present one cannot say how the promised new procedure will operate, or whether the Wednesdays of the Session hitherto appropriated by private members will still continue to be so occupied; but should the new procedure leave the privileges of private members on Wednesdays untouched, a good opportunity for debating the subject will arise. And there is some ground for the hope of the promoters that the second reading will be carried by a considerable majority. In 1900 the figures were 124 for, and 34 against, and the measure was lost only after it had been considered by a Standing Committee. Its progress would not have been so suddenly interrupted had more time been available. On this occasion there will be plenty of time, and all concerned may look forward to a lively controversy.

#### SHOPS (EARLY-CLOSING) BILL REVIVED.

In the House of Lords on Monday evening, Lord Avebury presented his Bill to provide for the earlier closing of shops. He said that during the last few days he had received communications from shopkeepers' associations all over the country expressing great disappointment that the Government did not propose to deal with the subject as they had hoped after the recommendation of the Committee which sat last Session. He hoped the Bill would receive the support of the Government. It was read a first time.

#### ANTI-VACCINATION BILL.

Mr. Broadhurst has had the temerity to introduce a Bill which can only be described by my heading. He is acting, I believe, at the instance of Leicester anti-vaccinators, and the chief object of the measure appears to be to make it impossible for a vaccination-officer to take any action without the consent of the Board of Guardians.

#### A WELSH UNIVERSITY BILL.

Mr. Brynmor-Jones has introduced a Bill to give to the graduates of the University of Wales the same legal status in all respects as those of Oxford, Cambridge, and London. It is couched in the same language as the Victoria University Act. I learn that the Bill is not of great immediate importance. They have yet to establish a medical faculty in the University, though at Cardiff a school has been started in connection with the University College.

## Practical Notes.

#### ORANGE-FLOWER WATER.

ACCORDING to M. Manseau (*Bulletin de la Société de Pharm. de Bordeaux*), by shaking orange-flower water which has become yellow, cloudy, and full of growths with sand it can be recovered and made suitable for purposes other than medicinal. The sand is prepared by boiling with double its volume of water acidulated with hydrochloric acid, decanting, washing with water to get rid of the acid, and calcining. About 2 oz. of prepared sand is shaken with 1 pint of orange-flower water, at intervals, for ten or fifteen minutes, and filtered.

#### DRIED YEAST.

M. JOUISSE gives the following characters and method of preparing dried yeast for medicinal purposes. The yeast, which must be fresh, is first washed with iced water till the washings are colourless, then collected and submitted to pressure in a tincture-press. The residue is then completely dried in a current of air at a temperature not exceeding 35° to 38° C. The characters given are: colour, a pale brown; odour, faint; taste, pleasantly bitter taste of hops. A good yeast causes fermentation in from twelve to fifteen minutes in three times its weight of 10-per-cent. sugar solution, at a temperature of 30° C. Iodine solution should not give a blue colour with yeast.—(*Bulletin des Sc. Pharm.*)